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Newsletter of the BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY
Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S., D.B.A. 17 Bloomsbury Square · London · W.C.1

Congratulations

To Mrs A Lothian Short and Mr L G Matthews on being awarded the Diacinto Cestoni medals by the Italian Academy of the History of Pharmacy on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of its foundation.

To Dr J K Crellin and Miss D A Hutton on the publication of their paper "The use of mortars and their place in English pharmacy" in *Medical History*.

Again, to Mr L G Matthews who was elected an honorary member of the Society and also on the publication of his latest book "The Antiques of Perfume".

Make a note of these dates:–

During the British Pharmaceutical Conference, Nottingham, September 2–6, there will be a History of Pharmacy session on Tuesday September 3. The theme will probably be "Pharmacy and Education in Nottingham".

During the evening meeting, of the Pharmaceutical Society, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1, on February 19, 5–9pm, Dr V Nutton, Cambridge, will speak on "Magic in Pharmacy in Roman Times" and will be followed by Professor J Stannard on "Mediaeval Materia Medica Themes and Sources". There will also be a discussion led by invited guests.

International Congress

Barry Martin Travel Ltd. Suite 309/310 Albany House, 324 Regent Street, London W1. (Phone: 01-637 0373) announce that in association with MALEV, Hungarian Airline and BEA, they are offering travel, accommodation, and registration facilities to British delegates wishing to attend the 24th International Congress of the History of Pharmacy, August 26 – 31, Budapest.

Cambridge Conference

Date – March 22 – 24

Theme – Apothecaries and Science in Cambridge

Papers – Eminent Cambridge Apothecaries – Dr T D Whittet

Apothecary Apprenticeship Records – Mrs J Burnby

Physicians, Surgeons and Apothecaries in Tudor and Stuart Cambridge – Dr A Rooke and Mr M Newbold

History of the University of Cambridge – Professor John Saltmarsh

John Addenbrooke and His Hospital – Dr A Rooke

William Heberden's Materia Medica and Therapeutics – Dr J K Crellin and Miss D A Hutton

Excursion – On Saturday afternoon, a medico-historial tour of Cambridge.

Accommodation will be provided in Selwyn College Cambridge CB3 9DQ.

Single "bed sitters" each with wash basin. Each pair of rooms share a shower.

Fees – Resident – £14.50. Non-resident – £9.50 (inclusive of all meals)

Applications to the Secretary, BSHP, 36 York Place Edinburgh EH1 3HU

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A Soldier Pharmacist

by C G SEARLE

With the absence of an army pharmaceutical service, and with the necessities of an early academic training, few modern pharmacists could claim a long military service; in the mid-19th century, however, when qualifications in pharmacy were minimal, such service was perfectly feasible, as this brief biography shows.

Edward Baker was born in Chatham in 1818, of strictly religious parents. England at that time was still recounting the glories of the Battle of Waterloo (1815) and this, together with an oppressive home life led to Baker enlisting 'whilst still a lad' in the 16th Lancers, although he was quickly bought out again by his horrified parents. The predilection for military service, however, must have remained with him, for in 1840, at the age of 22, he enlisted in the 34th Regiment of Foot, which was then based at Dover. During his short spell as a civilian, Baker had taken the then uninspiring trade of hairdresser, and it is thus surprising to find him being appointed, in 1844, a hospital-sergeant to the regiment. At about this time, the 34th embarked for the Mediterranean, where Baker spent nearly five years, during which he married and became a father (his only son, Samuel, was born in Gibraltar in 1849). Soon after this followed service in the West Indies, where he contracted ophthalmia, an eye inflammation which, amongst other diseases, was then prevalent in the Regiment; although Baker's case was "not acute", it later to be responsible for his discharge. Army medical and sanitary conditions were incredibly bad, and one can imagine that a hospital-sergeant would be hard-worked in such a climate.[1]

By the mid-1850's, western Europe had briefly settled its differences again, and the focus of attention moved to the war between Russia and Turkey. In 1854 Britain and France declared war on Russia, and, after a fleeting visit to England, Hospital-Sergeant Baker disembarked with his regiment at Evpatoria in the Crimea. Such were the fortunes of international affairs, that on this occasion the English and French were allies, and there occurred an incident that Baker loved to recount: some fifty years before, in the Peninsular War, the 34th Foot (English) had captured the drums and instruments of the 34th Chasseurs (French), and put them to their own use; now quartered alongside the former enemy, it was necessary to disguise the drum-markings with white-wash, to avoid 'unpleasantness'!

Almost the entire period of the Crimean War was taken up with the seige of Sevastopol, but during this period the Allies fought the battles of Balaklava and Inkerman, each with splendid heroics and great losses. But it was after Inkerman, during the harsh winter of 1854-55, that the British army suffered most – the fit from the poor food, lack of fuel and winter clothing, and the sick and wounded from atrocious hospital facilities, which had scarcely advanced since the previous war in the Peninsula. Fortunately, a Times correspondent had reported this, and, with a crusader's zeal, Florence Nightingale set sail with 38 nurses, to rapidly improve the lot of the 5,000 men in the hospitals, and to become a national heroine. It is not known whether Hospital-Sergeant Baker ever worked with "The Lady with The Lamp", but he long treasured a momento of her; this was not 'her original lamp' (as a local newspaper stated many years after his death!) but a "Clarke's Patent Fusee Candle Lamp", a small metal case holding a candle, above which metal dishes of water could be heated. It appears that one of Miss Nightingale's observations had been the lack of hot water in the hospitals, and this simple apparatus was her most effective remedy.

Conduct in the field

Throughout the spring and summer of 1855 the seige dragged on, until in September the 34th was engaged in the unsuccessful British assault on the Redan (a Russian artillery battery) which produced further heroics – Baker himself was awarded a medal for distinguished conduct in the field, after bringing in the wounded under fire. Although the British assault failed, the French success on the Malakoff resulted in the fall of Sevastopol, and hostilities were brought to an end. Baker was at once put in charge of a fatigue party to try to obtain hospital supplies in the ruined town, and whilst there came across a French French Zouave soldier with a Russian Eagle just looted from the Government House. Baker purchased this from him, and later presented it to the

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Regiment, by whom it was kept as a trophy for many years.[2]

Thus ended the Crimean War, infamous as much for its atrocious hospitals as for the "Charge of the Light Brigade." But it had given rise to a greater public awareness of military medical conditions, and Florence Nightingale, in overcoming these had created the modern nursing movement. Baker's own small role was recognised by his officers, who presented him with 'a handsome service of plate' in gratitude for his attention when they were wounded.

Duty continued to call. In 1857 India "broke into the Mutiny", and the 34th were amongst the first troops to be sent east. Baker was with the first group to reach Cawnpore after the massacre, and again was at the relief of the Lucknow garrison; but the climate and the continual exposure to infection were taking their toll, and twice he suffered illness, which, together with a worsening eye condition, led in 1861 to his discharge on medical grounds. It is interesting that a Commission set up in 1859 to investigate medical and sanitary conditions in the army in India did not report (to Florence Nightingale) until 1863, by which time many more men must have died, and others, including Edward Baker, had been discharged at unfit.

Baker's military career had been full and, apart from his illnesses, rewarding: he possessed the Crimean, the Turkish, and the Indian Mutiny medals, a pension from the Redan award, and a "purse of 64 sovereigns" from Lieut-Colonel Sir Richard Kelly and the officers of the 34th. On his final discharge papers, Edward Baker was still described as 'hairdresser' and gave his intended place of residence as "Chichester, Sussex".

A puzzle

How he suddenly became a chemist and druggist is not clear. In Chichester, Robert Wright had only recently opened his pharmacy at Eastgate[3], but he may have been unsuccessful, and gladly sold it to Baker, or the latter may have worked there before the transfer. In either case, by 1863 Baker was in full control, was successful, and in 1869 was registered as a "Chemist and Druggist" (by being in business before 1st August, 1868) when registration with the Pharmaceutical Society became essential. His son, Samuel, joined the business in 1871, and a highly successful agricultural and horticultural chemists' business evolved. So eminent did Edward Baker become, that a late member of a well-known local family could remember his parents "calling for Doctor Baker" when illness occurred in the family! Consistent with this deserved prosperity, Baker became a City councillor and a member of the Board of Guardians.

Hospital-Sergeant Edward Baker, 1818-1902

Like all born soldiers, he retained a great interest in his old regiment, and when in January, 1902, *The Globe* reported their exploits in the South African war, a letter he had written containing his reminiscences quickly followed. But age had added to the privations of military service, and he died a few months later, greatly mourned by his family and by the community that he had served.

Sources

1. Biographical details from: Obituary, *Chemist and Druggist*, April 5, 1902; Discharge Papers, 34th Regiment of Foot, Public Record Office; and various newspaper cuttings, some undated, in the possession of Mr. G F Bevis, MPS

2. Military details from: Young, P., The British Army, 1642-1970. London, 1967.

3. The Eastgate Pharmacy was traditionally "Established 1858", but evidence from directories, etc, may suggest a slightly later date, but not later than 1861.

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Chelsea Physic Garden Tercentenary

Douglas C. Harrod, B.Sc., F.P.S., F.L.S.

Three hundred years ago the river Thames was very much more of a highway than it is today. Not only were large quantities of goods transported by water but the river was also the main processional route to the City of London. Royalty and all the Livery Companies had their ceremonial barges and a procession on the river must have been a fine spectacle.

Many of the barges are preserved in the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich but as far as I have been able to ascertain the small four oared barge of the Society of Apothecaries has not survived.

In 1673 the Society of Apothecaries were looking for a site, not too far from their Hall at Blackfriars, on which to build a barge house. The site they found was a 3½ acre site on the river bank at Chelsea owned by the lord of the manor Charles Cheyne. He agreed to lease the ground for 61 years to the Society for an annual rent of £5. The lease was duly signed on August 29, 1973.

Three barge houses were built at the south east corner of the site – one for the Apothecaries, one for the Vintners and one for the Tallow Chandlers. During 1674-1675 the site was enclosed by a wall and much of the wall still remains.

It was decided that the rest of the site should be developed as a scientific botanical garden where botanists and medical men could come to study plants.

The Chelsea Physic Garden is the oldest surviving botanical garden in London which still occupies its original site. The garden at Oxford is 52 years older and that at Edinburgh, founded in 1670, has changed its site on three occasions. The word "Physic" in the title is often misunderstood. It refers to the Physical or Natural Sciences and not to Medicine, so that, the Garden is botanical and scientific although, of course, many plants of interest to pharmacy and medicine are grown.

Gardeners were appointed to cultivate the ground and to build up a collection of interesting botanical, medicinal and useful plants. Situated as it was on the banks of the river the Garden was frequently flooded and in any case the ground was kept moist by seepage from the river. A pond was also constructed so that water plants could be grown.

In 1683 Dr. Herman from Leiden visited the Garden and suggested to the gardener Richard Platt that there should be a free exchange of seeds and bulbs between the two gardens. The idea was accepted and since then has been greatly extended to include botanical gardens all over the world. Chelsea today sends over 2000 packets of seeds annually to other gardens. In 1684 Dr. Herman presented four small Cedar of Lebanon trees to the Garden. They were the first specimens of the species seen in England and they were planted round the pond. As they grew they became a famous landmark from the river. Two of the trees lived for about 100 years before they were cut down. The two nearest the river survived much longer, one to 1878 and the other to 1903.

The Garden soon became a centre to which apprentices and students, and botanists, apothecaries and medical men, came to prosecute their studies.

One student, who came from Ireland to study botany was Hans Sloane. He also studied medicine in London and France and qualified as a doctor. Dr. Sloane soon became famous and was knighted. In 1712 Dr. Sloane was able to purchase the Manor of Chelsea from Lord Cheyne and so became the owner of the Physic Garden.

Finance a problem

Throughout its existence the financing of the Garden has been a problem. So when Sir Hans took over the Garden, although the lease still had several years to run, consultations were instituted to find out the attitude of the new owner to the work of the Garden. They found Sir Hans most cooperative, so much so that in 1722 he transferred the Garden, in perpetuity, to the Master, Wardens and the Society of Apothecaries for a peppercorn rent of £5 per annum. In exchange it was agreed that the Garden should present 2000 different, properly labelled, dried plants to the Royal Society at the rate of 50 a year. This was faithfully carried out and the plants became the basis of the Herbarium of the British Museum. It incidentally ensured that the Garden

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Based on a talk given to the British Society for The History of Pharmacy during The British Pharmaceutical Conference, London September 11, 1973.

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continued as a place of research since new plants had to be found and cultivated to provide the specimens.

In 1732 Sir Hans Sloane laid the foundation stone for a central orangery and two hothouses, one on either side, along the north wall of the site. The hothouses enabled many exotic plants to be cultivated so increasing the value of the Garden.

The Society of Apothecaries, as a compliment to their benefactor, decided that the Garden would not be complete without a statue of Sir Hans Sloane. They commissioned the sculptor Michael Rysbrach to produce a life size standing figure in marble showing him in his robes as President of the Royal College of Physicians. The fine sculpture was originally placed in the orangery but in 1748 it was moved to its present position in the open in the centre of the Garden.

In 1736 Carl Linnaeus came to London and visited the Garden. The Gardener at the time was Philip Miller a protegee of Sloane. Linnaeus was allowed to collect a number of plants and was presented with some dried specimens of South American plants.

Philip Miller is perhaps the most famous of the Chelsea gardeners. He was at the Garden from 1722 to 1771 and is often called the father of gardening. His Dictionary of Gardening was published in 1724 and is justly famous. Miller grew cotton plants at Chelsea and sent them to America and so founded the American cotton plantations. William Forsythe succeeded Miller as gardener.

About that time Elizabeth Blackwell was living in Swan Walk to the east of the Garden. Her husband was in prison in London for debt and she set about preparing engravings of rare and curious plants to sell to earn money to get him out of prison. She had access to the Garden and drew many plants from life. The Herbal was published in 1739. The Physic Garden has a fine hand coloured copy of the work dated 1782.

The library

The library contains many very choice items. The original library was presented to the Garden by Dr. Dale in 1739 and was housed in two large wooden cabinets. The magnificent 2 volume Flora Londinensis by William Curtis, published in 1777, deserves mention. William Curtis was Demonstrator of Botany to the Society of Apothecaries. The books also include herbals by Avicenna, Bartholomaeus Anglicus, Brunfels, Dodoens, Fuchs, Gerarde (1st and 2nd editions), L'Obel, Parkinson, Porta, Salmon, and Turner.

Another Chelsea resident who played a major part in the history of the Garden was Sir Joseph Banks. As a boy he had spent much time learning the names of plants from Philip Miller. Later he was with Captain Cook on his first voyage round the world and on his return in 1771 presented many different kinds of seed, that he had collected, to the Garden. In 1772 he sailed to Iceland and brought back blocks of lava from the volcano Hecla. These were used together with stones from the old Tower of London to build a rockery for alpine plants. The rockery remains a feature of the Garden.

In 1835 John Lindley became Professor of Botany at the Garden. His "Introduction to the Natural System of Botany" was dedicated to The Society of Apothecaries.

Decline

By 1853 the Garden was again in decline and the expense of running it had to be cut. Permanent staff were discharged and a greenhouse sold. Fortunately the Garden was not completely destroyed. After several efforts sufficient funds were obtained to carry out necessary repairs.

1874 saw the opening of the Chelsea Embankment. This had a major effect on the Garden because it cut off the supply of water from the river. This caused the death of many of the trees. However two of the oldest plantings survived – the Maiden Hair Tree, *Ginkgo biloba* and also the *Koelreuteria paniculata*. The compensation received for the loss of access to the river was used to build the present south wall and iron gates.

The Society of Apothecaries finally relinquished the Garden to the Charity Commissioners in 1893. In order to preserve the Garden a Treasury Enquiry was held in 1899 and various bodies agreed to provide sums of money to ensure its upkeep.

In 1899 Chelsea wished to widen what is now the Royal Hospital Road. A small strip of the Garden to the north was sold. This meant the pulling down of the north wall and its adjacent buildings. New buildings were planned, erected and opened in 1902. They include a house for the Curator, a lecture room, a laboratory and various greenhouses maintained at three different temperatures.

Currently some 28000 plants annually are provided for teaching and research in the University of London, Polytechnics and Schools in addition to the exchange of seeds already referred to. The Garden cooperates in research both by growing plants and by providing space.

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Two Restored Historical Pharmacies

T.D. WHITTET

During a recent visit to Canada and the United States I visited two restored pharmacies. At Niagara-on-the Lake, about 10 miles from Niagara Falls, the Niagara Apothecary has been restored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Ontario College of Pharmacy, largely through Professors G R Paterson and Ernst Stieb and their colleagues.

1. The Niagara Apothecary.

The business is believed to have been founded in 1820 but did not move to the present site until 1866 when Henry Paffard, described as a chemist, took over the building of c.1830 which had been the office of E.C. Campbell, barrister and later judge. It remained a pharmacy until 1964 when the owner E W Field, pharmacist, retired because of ill health. Fortunately the main fittings had been little altered since the building became a pharmacy and it has been possible to restore it to an almost exact replica of Paffard's Apothecary Shop. A fine collection of pharmaceutical jars, apparatus and other equipment has been installed together with a collection of old propretary medicines, cosmetics and toiletries. Some of these were from the original pharmacy and the remainder from other pharmacies in the town and from other parts of Canada.

The Niagara Apothecary was officially opened on May 14 1971 as what Prof. Paterson has described as "a non-active practice: an active museum."

The Apothecary is open to the public in the Summer months and is manned by a volunteer. A few souvenir pharmaceutical items are on sale. Many thousands of people have already visited it.

The venture was described in a special number of the *Bulletin of the Ontario College of Pharmacy.*[1]

Niagara-on-the Lake is a delightful early Canadian town which has had many buildings restored. Nearby is the historical Fort George, the site of one of the most important battles in Canadian history. The journey between Niagara-on-the Lake and Niagara Falls is most picturesque as it follows the course of the Niagara River which forms the boundary between Canada and the United States.

2. Harper's Ferry Pharmacy.

Harper's Ferry, is named after Robert Harper, a millwright, who started a ferry and watermill there in the early 18th century. It is in a gap in the Appallacian mountains formed by the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, about 60 miles north-west of Washington. Because of its strategic position it played an important part in American history at the time of the Civil War. It was there that John Brown made his raid on the Federal Armoury in 1859. He was captured, tried at the still-existing courthourse in nearby Charlestown and sentenced to death. His execution gave rise to the famous song and was a prelude to the tragic civil war which started 17 months after the raid.

The armoury was destroyed by the federal troups early in the war to prevent it falling into the hands of Confederate army.

The town suffered severely during the war, changing hands several times. Several historical buildings have survived, however, including Stagecoach Inn, now the visitors' centre, the Master Armourer's House, John Brown's Fort (the armoury engine house) and Harper House. The National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior is restoring several buildings including a blacksmith's shop and a pharmacy.

The pharmacy has been equipped with the traditional fittings of the period and there is a collection of apparatus and pharmacy bottles. A young man was on duty when I visited the pharmacy. He was dressed in 19th century costume and was demonstrating the preparation of pills. This he did very skillfully although he was a museum attendant without any pharmaceutical training.

Both pharmacies are well worth a visit.

Acknowledgements

I am most grateful to Professors G R Paterson and E W Stieb of the Ontario Faculty of Pharmacy for entrusting me with the key of the Niagara Apothecary so that I could visit it when it was not officially open and to Capt Allen Brands, Chief Pharmacist, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, for taking me to Harper's Ferry.

References

1. Bulletin of the Ontario College of Pharmacy Vol XX no.2 April 1971, containing the following articles about the Apothecary:–

The restoration of the Niagara Apothecary, by P J Stokes
The Pharmacy and its Pharmacists, by R L Segal
The Niagara Foundation, by G R Paterson
Tinctures, Salt-Mouths, and Carboys, by E W Stieb
The Ontario Heritage Foundation, by G R Paterson
From Hither and Yon, by E W Stieb
A Non-Active Practice: An Active Museum, by G R Paterson

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Officers
In accordance with the rules of the Society, the Committee at its meeting on May 30 elected the following office bearers for 1974/5:

President:	Dr. J.K. Crellin
Vice-president:	Mrs. J. Burnby
Secretary:	Miss D.A. Hutton
Treasurer:	Mr. J.C. Bloomfield

Make a note of these dates:–
A joint presentation on "Pharmacy and Philately" by Mr. D.F. Lewis and Mr. G.R.A. Short at 17 Bloomsbury Square, on Sunday November 3, at 2.30 pm.

British Pharmaceutical Conference, Nottingham
Two papers have been arranged for the History of Pharmacy session on September 3, 2. pm.

"Some aspects of Nottingham's pharmaceutical history" by Emeritus Professor G.E. Trease, formerly Professor of Pharmacognosy and Head of the School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham.

"The Company Chemist – An Historical Perspective" by Dr. Stanley Chapman, Lecturer in Economic and Social History, University of Nottingham.

The meeting is in the maths/physics building Nottingham University.

Spring Conference 1975
It is proposed to hold the Society's Spring Conference at the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh, March 21–23, 1975. The theme of the conference is "Apothecaries, Medicine and Science in Edinburgh". One of the speakers is Professor Simpson who has been interested in maps and prints of Edinburgh for the last twenty years and also in the history of medicine for a similar period. He is a keen collector and has published a book on plans and maps of Edinburgh. At present he is the president of the Old Edinburgh Club.

He is a physicist by profession and holds the Chair of Orthopaedic Bio-Engineering in the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

He will be illustrating a brief account of the history of Edinburgh from his collection of maps and prints and hopes to put some of the original material on display for members to examine.

Mrs. Eaves Walton will deal with *"Some Connections between Pharmacy and the Royal Infirmary"*. The main source of material for this talk will be the records of the Royal Infirmary itself, which was founded in 1729. Minute books and accounts illustrate how the problem of providing and dispensing medicines with economy, for an ever-increasing number of patients, was tackled during the early years. Mrs. Eaves Walton is archivist to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, a post which she has held since it was created in 1967. A history graduate of the University of Edinburgh, Mrs. Eaves Walton came to archives work after several years spent in historical research in Scottish records, and the other speaker, Mrs. Monica Clough joined Stirling University as a mature student in 1967, and graduated with honours in history and Scottish studies. She has lectured for two years in the History Department and is now devoting herself to full-time research. Her topic *"Scottish Folk Medicine: belief and practice"* is based on the controversial dictum "medicine is older than doctors" and attempts to examine the pre-scientific practices of healing in Scotland. The natural and herbal cures were much in line with the rest of Britain, the religious beliefs and customs upon which they were based appear distinctively Scottish.

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A 17th Century Drug Account

by L.G. COOK, M.P.S.

The document to which this paper refers was discovered, among some others, in the archives of an Edinburgh legal firm and passed on to the late Dr George Macmorran, from whom Mr. C.G. Drummond passed it on to me.

It is an account for drugs supplied in the year 1687 to the Right Honorable Lady Rawdon or Roydon (her name is spelt in both ways in different parts of the bill), by Mr John Stanley, an apothecary. In this year of 1687, James VII of Scotland and II of Great Britain was on the throne and in the following year William of Orange landed at Torbay.

The Rawdon family took their title from Rawdon Hall in the West Riding of Yorkshire, the baronetcy being created in 1665 when the Marquis of Hastings became Earl of Rawdon.

Some years after the date of this bill, Francis Rawdon-Hastings (1754–1826) married Flora Campbell, Countess of Loudoun in Ayrshire and, on the death of Henry, the 4th Marquis, in 1863, his estates in Leicestershire and Ayrshire passed to his sister, the then Countess of Loudoun, and this Scottish connection may account for the presence of the bill in Edinburgh.

The first problem which arises is the identity and place of business of John Stanley, the apothecary. He is described in the bill as "Alderman" Stanley, which places him in England, since that title has never been used in Scotland. I consulted Dr T.D. Whittet, who has compiled a card index of several thousand names of apothecaries practising in England, but he knows of no Stanley of this date.

There is, however, one clue. In the Guiseley parish register there appears an entry under the heading "Baptisms, 1642" – "John Stanley, son of John Stanley of Horsforth, the 18th of December". Horsforth is about 2 miles from Rawdon, near Leeds.

Assuming that this John Stanley or Stanlay – they were not too consistent in their spelling of proper names at this time as we have seen before, assuming that he was baptised in infancy, which was the usual practice at the time, we have a man of the right name, in the relevant area who would have been some 45 years old at the time of the bill – a mature and experienced man such as might have been trusted to supply medicines to a noble family. This in inconclusive, and a large question mark still hangs over the identity of the man who supplied these drugs, and, according to the receipt which is written on the back of the bill, was paid for them.

Few pharmacists, accustomed as they are to deciphering scripts of variable legibility, would find the bill difficult to read, but it helps if one remembers that the letters which look like O's are often E's.

Is it a coincidence that the first two items, Syrup of Violets and Oil of Sweet Almonds were, until quite recently, used together as a family remedy for children's coughs, or has this combination persisted from the 17th century, or earlier, until the present? The pott of Pectoral Unguent may have had the ingredients of beeswax, spermaceti, oils of mace, almonds, nutmeg and cloves which are mentioned in Dr Thomas Fullen's Pharmacopoeia Extemporanea of 1705 – not so very different from the vapour rubs which are still in use. Green liquorish posed a problem until Mr Eric Knott told me that it was peeled undried liquorice root. Syrup of paeony, saxifrage and ment water – we can guess that the last item was peppermint – or some other mint, water. French barley appears three times and Mr J.B. Grossett gave me a clue which identifies it as hulled barley which is mentioned by R.S. Roberts as being among the drugs imported into Britain in 1567–8.

The diary of William Blundell of Lancashire records records that in 1681, his apothecary Dr. Worthington of Wigan, brought for him "French Barley and several ingredients for making the water thereof".

Wild carrott seed was the seed of Daucus Carota – it appears later in the bill as "Daucus seed". Diascordium was an anti plague electuary first prescribed by Fracastoro, an Italian physician, in 1546.

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Alderman Stanley's account and discharge to the Lady Rawdon. The Right Honble Lady Rawdon Debt to John Stanley Apothecary.

			£	s	d
March	12	Syrup of Violets and bottle			9
185/7		Oyle of sweet almonds and bottle			11
		for a pott of pectoral Unguent			3
		Green Liquorish			3
		Syrup of paeony saxifrage and ment water			6
	19	French barley 1 pound			5
		Aloes			2
	20	Oyle of sweet Almonds, new drawn and bottle		2	1
		Wild Carrott seed 3d turmorick 1d			4
	21	Diascordium 2d ment water 2d			4
1687	28	A blistering Plaster			3
	29	dominio Spread 5d french barley 1 pound		1	0
Aprile	4	Syrup of Clove lilly flowers and bottle			9
		Ment and saxifrage waters and bottles			6
		Oyle of Anis seeds and bottle		1	1
		Diascordium and pott			7
	5	Liquorish and Coultsfoot			4
	5	Worm seed and Mugwort			4
	8	Cinamon water and bottle		1	7
		Daucus seeds 3d Manna 9d		1	0
	14	Anis and Coriander seeds 4d 2 bladders 1d			5
	15	Cumin and worm seed		1	0
		Green Liquorish and 2lb Sugar Candy			9
		french barley 1 pound Daucus seed 1d			7
		Best Indian Rhubarb 3vi		2	3
	17	Pectoral Oyntment and Pott			7
		Tamarinds			3
	20	Cinamon water		1	0
	21	french barley 1 pound			6
	22	Pomegranate bank and albu graeci			2
	27	White Sugar Candy			3
	28	Manna			9
May	2	White Sugar Candy			6
		for a mass of Galbanum and oxycrocent		1	4
		Anis seed and flower of Brimstone			3
	3	More Manna			9
	4	Liquorish 3d Rose water and bottle 3d			6
		Severall papers of Cordial poud as for Ald Jacksons child Dr. Guithens order		2	2
		A cordial Julep to take them in		1	9
	5	No 4 Epispastick Plasters		1	4
		Melilat Spread			4
	2	2 Plasters of Diachylon for Mrs Nurse			4
		A histerci Plaster		1	0
	7	fumed Cloves		1	6
	14	Aloes succatrine			2
		for a large Sparadrapht for Sw. Edwarde madon fever. Aromatic gums, oyles and spices for my assisting Mr Hicks in ye directing of Sq Edwarde	1	0	0
			2	13	11

Recd full satisfaction for the within Particualrs this 30th day of Septem; 1687 me Joseph Dabb for my mastr Mr.Jon Stanley.

Dominio spread suggests some fascinating alternatives. It may have been a reference to the concentration of medical knowledge and practice in the monasteries which occurred in the middle ages and this may refer to a formula originating with the Dominican Grains. It may have been a mask, or domino, spread with a healing ointment, for application to an infected facial lesion, or it may have been, as seems most likely, a plaster made from minium, which was the old name for one of the oxides of lead.

Syrup of clove jilly flowers was made from clove scented carnation flowers. Worm seed and mugwort are both herbs derived from plants of the artemisia family and both contain santonin. If these two herbs, ordered together, were to be used for the same patient, is it not a tribute to the empirical medicine of the time that they should have chosen two drugs which contained what was, until recently, the most effective remedies for round and thread worms?

Bladders could have been used to cover pots or jars. The containers which survive from the 17th century seldom have covers, but they did have rims under which a string could be tied to secure a membrane such as a piece of bladder. On the other hand, the bladders of swine or rams (reduced to ash and taken with water) were used in Anglo Saxon medicine. Shakespear has Romeo describing the shop of the poor poor apothecary of Mantua as:–

"A beggarly account of empty boxes
Green earthen pots, bladders and musty seeds"

which is interesting but does little to tell us why Lady Rawdon wanted them,

Album Graecum was one of the less attractive elements of 17th century medicine. It was dried white dog's dung, given for colic and dysentery or applied externally for abscesses, ulcers and quinsies. Robert Boyle mentions it in his "Collection of Medicines" in 1696.

Oxycroceum was a plaster containing vinegar, saffron etc. On the 4th of May "Several papers of cordial powders as for Alderman Jackson's child and a cordial julep to take them in. A julep was a sweet, clear, syrup liquid and provides an early example of a spoonful of sugar making the medicine go down.

Epispastic plasters were for blistering, with cantharides as their active ingredient. Melilat spread was a plaster made from the leaves and tops of common melilat used as a poultice for neuralgia. The diachylon plasters were of crude lead oleate and the

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hystenic plaster was for application to the abdomen. The large sparadrapht was an adhesive plaster on linen or paper, according to Wootton.

The total charge for this rather lengthy list of drugs was £2 : 13 : 11, which, even allowing for the depreciation in the value of the pound, does not seem excessive. Dr. Gideon Harvey, Physician in Ordinary to his Majesty, wrote in 1670:– "I have often seen bills of apothecaries rise to 20 and sometimes £30 in the time of a fortnight".

It seems that John Stanley, like many of his successors, was not overpaid.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this bill is the large number of drugs it contains which are quite familiar to those who entered pharmacy in the twenties, and, even more surprising is the fact that eleven of the drugs mentioned here also appear in a list of drugs included in the writings of Hippocrates, who lived between 430 and 360 B.C., this shows how little change had taken place in the drugs we used from the earliest times of which we have records, until the advent of the sulphonamides, soon to be followed by penicillin and the other antibiotics triggered the explosive growth in the number of specific drugs which we now dispense.

Robert Uredale (1642-1722) Botanist

By J. BURNBY

Botany and Medicine have in the past been so closely allied that it is not surprising that many physicians, apothecaries and druggists have been much engaged in the study of plants. Men such as Richard Pulteney, who was apprenticed to an apothecary called Harrison in Mountsorrel, knew which plants were harboured in every nook and cranny in Leicestershire and he applied the same service to Dorset after he obtained an Edinburgh medical degree and departed to Blandford Forum.

There was the famous Quaker Dr. John Fothergill[1] who had a botanic garden of rare plants and Ollive Sim and his well known apprentice Luke Howard who used to roam the wild moors to the east of Stockport and the dales of Derbyshire.[2]

Medicine, however, has derived its knowledge of drugs from other professional men who were also interested in plants. Such a one was Dr. Robert Uvedale, headmaster of Enfield Grammar School. He lived in the old Elizabethan 'palace' where he also had a private school and in the gardens grew many rare exotics. He had correspondents from far and wide, including Africa, the New World and the Far East from whom he received bulbs, seeds and dried specimens. He was a close friend of that assiduous plant collector Consul Sherard and of Sir Hans Sloane, whose two nephews he taught. He was one of the first to use green-houses and artificial heat in this country, though then they had only one wall of glass.

In 1698 he wrote to Sloane that he had received a collection of drugs from Siam, samples of which he was sending to him. From his letter it would also seem that he had tried to carry out some of the primitive chemical analysis of the day on the minerals which had also been sent.

A considerable consignment

Uvedale was an excellent Hebrew scholar so it is not surprising that the native script of the attached tags particularly intrigued him and he wrote that they were not Persic or Arabic characters but some were not unlike the Aethiopic. It must have been a considerable consignment, for he continues that he has added a list of the English titles according to the attached labels, "of which there are two hundred and fifteen if he has not made a miscount".

Some years later he received from Fort St. George, Siam another collection from that country's armamentarium, for in 1711 he wrote to James Petiver F.R.S. apothecary at the White Cross, Aldersgate and to the Charterhouse, that he was sending him some more samples of drugs from Siam which might interest him, if not then the dust boxes would soon relieve him of them. Petiver was a prolific if possibly not too accurate writer on botanical matters and in his Gazophylacium Naturae et Artis a number of the plates are dedicted to Uvedale.

An interesting comment on Petiver's practice,

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which the Dictionary of National Biography disparagingly remarks was large but, "not of the best quality as he advertised quack nostrums" arises from an illness which Uvedale experienced. He developed a swelling which no purging or treatment would remove, indeed it tended to grow. Eventually, as he wrote to Dr. Richardson[3] of North Bierly, Yorkshire, another ardent plant collector, he went to London where a group of medical men closely examined him in a darkened room with the aid of candles and gave their unanimous opinion that it was only a "celes aquosus". It seems that he must have received treatment from Sir Hans for it because he wrote him that he was using the poultice or cataplasm he had ordered.

However it was to no avail for in the same letter as he wrote to Petiver in the Spring of 1712 about the Siamese drugs, he says that the tumor has grown so large and cumbersome that he has decided to have it removed during the Easter holidays, if possible and if Petiver thought it desirable. Consequently he would be glad if he would make the necessary arrangements with a Mr. Green, who presumably was a surgeon.

The operation was duly carried out without benefit of anaesthesia or asepsis and despite his seventy years Uvedale made a good recovery. Unfortunately, as he confided to Dr. Richardson in September 1713 it soon soon filled up again and he feared that he would have it for the rest of his life. But by great good fortune a further operation eradicated the trouble and he wrote rejoicingly a few months later to his faithful correspondent. (They wrote to each other at irregular intervals from 1695 until 1721 shortly before Uvedale's death in 1722) He added that Mr. Green[4] had said that he had only seen such a successful outcome twice before and that in men half his age.

Cedar of Lebanon

Possibly Uvedale's greatest claim to fame has been the planting of what well may be the first Cedar of Lebanon in Britain, Traditionally one of his pupils brought it back in a portmanteau from the Lebanon for him. These trees have always appealed to the popular imagination and a favourite occupation in the eighteenth century was the measuring of rival claimants to being the cedar tree or else the largest one in England. In 1788 the Enfield cedar was 45 feet 9 inches high and by 1835 it had grown another nineteen feet.

It is thought that he planted the cedar in or about 1670 which precedes the pair planted near the gates of the Apothecaries Physick Garden by some twelve or thirteen years (1683). Sloane wrote to Ray in 1685 and showed surprise that the cedars had been propagated at Chelsea without a greenhouse and that they grew in the open air. Probably Sloane had not been to Enfield prior to 1683 or perhaps originally Uvedale grew his cherished sapling in one of his famous greenhouses.

Towards the end of his long life Uvedale became increasingly infirm and he wrote pathetically in 1720 that his only pleasure now lay in turning over the pages of his *hortus siccus.* This was beautifully and lovingly kept and ultimately passed into the possession of his friend Sir Hans and so to the British Museum.

Footnotes

(1). John Fothergill received his initial medical training with an apothecary Benjamin Bartlett of Bradford and then obtained an M.D. of Edinburgh.
(2). Sim and Howard found Cochlearia anglica on the hills near Castleton, Geranium sanguineum in Littondale and Arbutus uva ursi on Kinderscout.
(3). Richard Richardson obtained his medical education at Oxford and Leyden; at the latter place he lived for three years at the house of Paul Herman, the eminent Professor of Botany. The York Newspaper at the time of his death (April 1741) wrote "he was admired as a Botanist having the best collection of native and foreign plants in the North of England". He was a friend of Boerhaave.
(4). Uvedale wrote that the same surgeon had cured "my Lord Treasurer" (Harley afterwards Early of Oxford;) after he had been stabbed by Guiscard a French surgeon of note had been called in, but after two or three dressings, the physician seeing him worse rather than better advised him to call Mr. Green, "...who, as his cousin told me, having seen his condition wished the physician had spared their compliment, but in two-three dressings he was of another mind".

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Medical and Pharmaceutical Songs at South Bank

The Liverpool Music Group, directed by Dr. Fritz Spiegl, gave a concert on the South Bank, London on 8 June 1974, at which they sung and played many well known and some almost unknown songs, including 'The Banting Song', 'Doctor Compos Mentis' 'The Veteran Stethoscope', 'Germs' and an extract from Donizetti's opera 'The Nightmare of the Apothecary', etc. etc.

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Mediaeval Medicines

A joint meeting of The British Society for the History of Pharmacy and The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was held at Bloomsbury Square on February 19 on "The Origins and Influences of Mediaeval Drugs and Medicines".

The first paper was given by Professor Jerry Stannard of the University of Kansas, at present *Gastprofessor* at the University of Marburg. Professor Stannard's subject was "Mediaeval Medical Botany: Its Themes and Sources". He began with a survey of the medical texts of the period and went on to show that there are a variety of sources of information on mediaeval botany which are not readily obvious to the non-specialist. Examples include documents concerned with the domestic arts, travel and commerce, legal manuscripts and theological works.

After the interval for supper Dr Vivien Nutton of the University of Cambridge spoke on the subject "Magic and Pharmacy in Roman Times". Dr Nutton showed that folk-medicine and oriental mysticism existed alongside the 'rational' medicine frequently emphasised in surviving Graeco-roman medical texts. He observed that, at times, magic superseded intellectual medicine in providing a satisfying and more easily comprehensible explanation for observed phenonema.

Approximately eighty people were present to hear the two papers which were followed by a discussion opened by invited speakers. Dr Stearn of the British Museum (Natural History) spoke of the influence of the early Greek flora on the botany of later times. Dr O'Hara May, who has studied the history of nutrition, referred to the place of diet in early medicine and its contribution to the maintenance of health. Dr Lieber and Dr MacKenzie, both from the University of Oxford, discussed the medical philosophy of Galen whose writings, dating from the first century A.D., had a profound influence throughout the mediaeval period.

Incidentally, if any member present at the meeting perchance overlooked the £1.00 supper charge, the treasurer would be happy to send a receipt for any delayed payment.

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of the BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

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For the Collector

At the Musee National de la Ceramique, Sevres, Paris, a special exhibition of 650 first rate drug jars is on display from 22 May to 2 December 1974. Hours: 9.45–12.0; 13.30–17.15 – entrance 3 fcs. The whole range, from Persia through the Near East to Spain, Italy and Europe is represented. An illustrated brochure with historical notes is available from the Musee, 2 fcs., postage extra.

Tate Gallery, London, 19 June to 18 August, 1974. An exhibition of paintings by Richard Dadd who spent long years in Bethlem and Broadmoor Hospitals after murdering his father, Robert Dadd, a chemist of Chatham and later of London, in 1843. The high quality of Dadd's paintings, most of which were done whilst in Bethlem, can be seen in this assembly of his works never before on display.

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Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S., D.B.A. 17 Bloomsbury Square · London · W.C.1

Committee

Members are reminded that nominations for the annual election of the Committee should be submitted not later than Saturday, February 1, 1975 to: Hon. Secretary, BSHP, 36 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3HU.

Members of the committee due to retire in 1975 are:

Mrs. J. Burnby, Dr. J.K. Crellin, Dr. M.P. Earles and Mrs. A. Lothian Short.

Other members and their retiring dates are:

Mr. J.C. Bloomfield (1976), Mr. C.G. Drummond (1977), Miss D.A. Hutton (1976), Mr L.G.Matthews (1977), Mr. A. McGuckin (1977), Dr. T.D. Whittet (1976), Mr. A. Wright (1977).

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr. C.G. Drummond on being elected President of the Scottish Society of the History of Medicine.

To Mr. L.G. Matthews on being made an honorary member of the Nobile Collegio Chimico Farmaceutico, an ancient foundation which has its hall in a Roman temple in the centre of the Forum.

Spring Conference

The Conference is being held at the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh, March 21–23, 1975 at a cost of £17.50 per person. The programme is as follows.

Friday, March 21

6.30 p.m. Dinner

8.00 p.m. Reception
Exhibition and talk by Professor D.C. Simpson on Edinburgh during the period from the foundation of the Royal College of Physicians to the foundation of the Faculty of Medicine. (1685–1726)

Saturday, March 22

9.15 a.m. "18th Century Scottish Pharmacy" – C.G. Drummond

10.00 a.m. "Some Connections Between Pharmacy and the Royal Infirmary" culled from the records of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, founded in 1729 – Mrs. P.M. Eaves-Walton.

10.45 a.m. Coffee

11.15 a.m. "Scottish Folk Medicine: Belief and Practice" – Mrs. M. Clough

12.00 p.m. Annual general meeting

1.00 p.m. Lunch

Afternoon Free

7.00 for 7.30 Dinner

After dinner
"History of Suture Development in Edinburgh" – L.A. Bailey

Sunday, March 23

9.30 a.m. "The Edinburgh Pharmacopoeia" Professor D. Cowen

10.30 a.m. Coffee

10.45 a.m. "Of a Spirit in the Water: Aeriform Fluids Before Black" – J.B. Eklund

11.45 a.m. "Science in Edinburgh in the 18th and early 19th Centuries" – J.R.R. Christie

1.00 p.m. Lunch

2.30 p.m. Excursion may be arranged

Applications to the secretary B.S.H.P.

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According to the Art

By C.G. DRUMMOND

Today we live in the world of the specialist – the physician, the surgeon, the pharmacist, the pharmacologist, the geriatrician, and his opposite number, the paediatrician, the anaesthetist, the psychiatrist, and others too numerous to mention. Two centuries ago there was a "man o' pairts" known as the surgeon-apothecary. He was, in fact, primarily a pharmacist who worked in the closest association with the physician of the day, preparing and supplying medicines, spreading and applying blisters, and bleeding his patients with lancet and leech.

One of them has cheated posterity by omitting to write his name anywhere in a very large volume, and for some two hundred and forty years he has remained anonymous, though one or two clues lead to hope that he will stand revealed in due course. What we do know of him suggests that he operated in and around Dalkeith; that he was devoted to his art; that he was held in high repute by the eminent physicians of the day; that he was a man of keen observation; that he did not blindly and unhestitatingly accept the dogma of the world of medicine; and that he did not spare himself in any way. So much may be deduced from the pages of a large book in the possession of the National Library. It gives a vivid account of the problems of the early to middle 18th century – those of the physicians and the surgeon-apothecaries – in diagnosis and treatment, and those of a populace exposed to smallpox, cholera, whooping cough (or chincough as it was then called) and measles, to mention only a few of the prevailing diseases.

He did not blindly accept the theories of the day, and was a keen observer of the action and uses of drugs. Two centuries before the passing of the Dangerous Drugs Act, he held grave doubts about the widespread use of opium. For example, he attended one John Dow, who was ill with what is described as peripneumonic fever. John was given clysters (or enemas) of whey and honey, and it was noted that they had little success, though Boerhaave advised such treatment. He further records that Bellini gave an opiate "It was remarkable in this patient", he states, "that all kinds of opiates were pernicious and the best was paregorick". John Dow was blistered and was twice bled plentifully, but he died suddenly with "little noise". The apothecary continues his theme with the remark that he afterwards gave a grain of opium in a similar case to an old strong man, but it had very bad effects and hindered expectoration.

On another occasion he wrote: "Perhaps in this case it was wrong to have given so much of opiates because his spirits were naturally and otherwise so low, perhaps even the opiates brought on that delicacy of the spirits that made her faint upon the least turn in bed, at least I learned so in a late case of My Lady Dalhousie, Lady Anne Ramsay and My Lord Dalhousie who all of them upon using the simple Pil. Mathei fell into faintish fitts, benumbness, insensibility and other bad effects of opiates". (Pil. Mathei were composed of Serpentary, Castoreum, Saffron and Opium).

On January 2, 1735, the apothecary was called to My Lady Dalhousie, to find her in "a fainting fitt lying on bed and speechless". "The evening before", he continues, "she had gott 6 grs of Pil Mathei which she blamed as the first cause of all her troubles and pretends she has a natural aversion at all opiates since she once got by mistake a large quantity of laudanum that had very near cost her her life, and was cured by a vomit".

But, while listening attentively to My Lady Dalhousie, the apothecary was making his own diagnosis, the result of which he confided to his journal, if not to the lady herself. He wrote: "I reckoned the true occasion of her fitts at this time rather proceeded from the cold for which she had gott the Pil. Mathei and from sitting up late playing att cards which she has done lately".

A few weeks later, the apothecary was attending Lady Anne Ramsay. An entry in the diary of March 13, 1735, says that she had now left off her gum pills because she thought they purged her too much, and she continued all day without taking any drugs save a little of her hysteric and diuretic mixture in the morning. "It being a very good day she ventured abroad to the garden in the forenoon and found herself pretty easy all day", the journal records. "She had a natural defect perhaps in her nerves from the distortion of her spine which she got by a fall when an infant, but she blames most at present for her illness the use of Pil. Mathei she got some time ago this winter from Mr. Brown for her cough. She says it was only then she began to experience that prickling and want of sense in her fingers and sometimes as it were the want of sense altogether in her limbs as if they were entirely taken away from her".

Another entry, concerning John Laing, suggests perhaps some dependence on opium, though no comment is made beyond the mere observation. It is said in Laing's case that he had had smallpox four years previously and he apparently suffered from purging. What seemed most useful to him were the Pil. Mathei gr. xii at night, which he could never want without a great deal of uneasiness which happened at any time they were neglected. But since the pills of Matthews contained one grain of opium in ten grains of pill mass, the quantity consumed was probably little more than therapeutic.

Between the recorded visits to My Lady Dalhousie in January 1735, and that to Lady Anne in March of that year, the apothecary was called to the Earl himself. He writes: "He was troubled with a pain in his back ever since his lady's illness, whether from a strain he gott at that time or a fright, I know not. This morning he had been rubbing it with his stuff which had probably irritated it and the night before he had been pretty late out att a merry meeting where they were drinking a great quantity of heavy strong ale". Life in that quiet countryside seems to have had its distractions.

But it becomes evident, on a close study of the journal of the apothecary, that disease was never far distant, needing only suitable conditions to flare up into the most terrifying epidemics. There was, for example, a particularly severe visitation of smallpox in 1733 to which reference is made in an entry dated January 26, 1734. It reads: "The smallpox had not yet left us in this country, they had been raging in Edinburgh for some time past and very fatal to several, viz. three children of Mr. Wight's, three of Mr. Mackys the professor, two of Mr. Guilds, three of Mrs. Barclay, Sir James Stuart's uncle, Sir James's nephew and Jamie Stuart also dy'd &c... also a young man, he was thrice bled, of twenty years of age dy'd. . ." But the physicians and apothecaries of the period visited their patients daily. There is more than a possibility that there was immunity, conferred by an earlier

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attack of the disease, but records elsewhere show an appallingly high death-rate among the apprentices to surgeon-apothecaries.

Another case concerns Lord Boyd – a boy of 7 years of age who fell victim to the epidemic in late 1733. The first entries are for November 23, 24, 25 and 26. It appears that the boy was playing at picquet and began to feel himself uneasy with a headache, though for eight days before he had been observed to have what is delicately, if vaguely, described as a "worse stomach than usual". "Next day notwithstanding he went to school, being Saturday, but turned heavy and uneasy, slept some on a desk. Had a very violent headache with dullness and paleness, and in the evening also complained of a pain in his back. Took no supper. I was then called and found his pulse very quick but not strong nor very hard. I immediately caused bleed him about 7 ounces which were not fizzy. He bled well and with a large orifice but turned faintish, tho' a little before his face was redder and more flushed than usual and his eyes watery and somewhat heavy. He drank more than a bottle of milk and water during the night time and slept not well in the morning".

"November 25. Sunday being the third day of the disease, his pulse was still very quick but soft and not very strong, tho' it seemed full. He was transported to another room about 11 o'clock, complained more of the pain in his back and said his head was easier, yet still very giddy so that he could not get up. He never complained of the least nausea far less vomited any as yet, notwithstanding we gave him a vomit immediately of Pulv Ipecacuanha gr XXXL". The B.P.C. and Martindale give doses of 1 to 2G as an emitic, so that the boy was not being treated very gently. The powder was infused in two ounces of Aq. Mellis – or Honey Water, It contained honey, the oils of bergamot, clove and sandalwood, a trace of musk, saffron, rose water and orange-flower water. To two ounces of that aromatic water was added half-an-ounce of Syrup of Violet and the young patient "swallowed the best part of it and drank tolerably yet did not vomit much, nor violently". In the evening Dr. Stevenson, an eminent Edinburgh physician, saw him and did not think his fever so high as to require more bleeding. The maid was instructed to lift him and hold him with blankets round him but, perhaps not surprisingly, the doctors found that their instructions had been neglected. He was given a clyster and sleeping syrup.

By the 9th day he was sitting up in bed and a Dr. Cochrane advised stewed prunes for dinner. He ate frequently next day, was lifted up in his nightgown in the afternoon and sat easily in a chair. At night got no syrup. (The syrup would be a sleeping preparation – either papaveris alb. or diacodium).

19th day. "He got his physick for the first time, 5 gilt pills made of Pil. Coch. gr. xiv and Merc. Dulc (or calomel) gr. iii. He swallowed two the night before and three this morning early at 5 o'clock that there might not be too great a distance 'twixt his doses. They purged very easily 6 times". "He took some thin porridge in the morning and afterwards a little small broth. The same dose of pills was repeated on Tuesday, but did not purge more than three times, so that on Thursday the dose was increased to Pil. Coch. gr xviii, Merc. dulc. gr iv. These purged him more briskly", you will not be surprised to learn. And there the notes on Lord Boyd cease and one must conclude that he had come through the fiery furnace and had acquired immunity.

There are other cases with a less happy or satisfactory ending in which everything known to medicine was tried. A thoughtful assessment of the disease is given in which the apothecary quotes Dr. Stevenson as saying that he does not follow accurately Dr. Friend's method, "nor that of any other, since it is always necessary for every physician to make in a manner every method his own by an exact and scrupulous judgment and so likewise Mr. Sydenham often changes his own method with regard to both fever and smallpox."

On the 10th day of the disease in one case he observes that "Dr. Sydenham does not distinguish or give names to more kinds of smallpox than two, the Distinct or Confluent, yet there are several subdivisions.... It is absolutely necessary to give names to things that we may understand one another in physick, tho' often we mean no more of what is real by those names than the astronomers mean by the signs of the Zodiac, and in this respect we are obliged to form hypotheses to ourselves in which kind none is more fruitful than Sydenham himself, witness what he speaks of sufflaminating, or checking the rarefactions of the blood, of febrile ebullitions and of a disorderly or irregular motion of the spirits". (It may occur to you to wonder if the mantle of Sydenham has not fallen on the pharmaceutical industry of today). Picturesque description is not unknown in 1974.

But everything was not so critical. For example the astute Robie Rutherford, of whom it is recorded that "the pills did not purge him above twice, but I had reason to suspect that he had not swallowed them all". And there was Willie Hutchison, aged 9, who "loathes his emulsion and seeks some "small" drink, by which I find he means some small ale he used to get at the Iron Mill, much smaller than the tippenny which the servants used to brew for themselves". Willie was, one might suppose, preparing to take his place at a later date with the Earl of Dalhousie at a merry meeting pretty late, with a large quantity of strong ale.

Another disease rampant about the same time was whooping cough, or chincough. That name was derived from the expression "a chinking cough" which was adequate description, though it is a pity that kinkhost was allowed to disappear. It was pure Dutch, and was a reminder of the close association in trading between Scotland and the Netherlands. Among children's diseases were also measles, of a particularly virulent type, and scarlet fever also took its toll. There is the case of Tammy Clark, the son of Dr. John Clark, of Edinburgh. Advice for Tammy's treatment came regularly from one who was later to become President of the Royal College of Physicians; who was a founder of the Royal Infirmary, and who was prominent in the compilation of the second edition of the Edinburgh Pharmacopoeia. Tammy's presence in the area is judged to have been educational, for he was a member of the Lesley household, along with Gibby Elliot of Minto, and others.

It is interesting to discover that the apothecary appeared at homes in the country, to minister to the same families who, while they were resident in their town houses, made use of the services of Adam Drummond of the Lawmarket. That is a possible line to pursue in the attempt to identify the apothecary, for it seems not unlikely that his name may be among those who served their apprenticeships with Adam Drummond. The families were prominent in the countryside – – the Dundas family of Arniston, the Elliots of Minto, the Dalhousie family, and others who must have had complete confidence in the skill of the apothecary.

But all was not in the hands of the physician or surgeon-apothecary, for there were visits to take the waters of Moffat, Scarborough and Aberbrothick. The apothecary states: "I found that Aberbrothick waters had a very strong taste of vitriol and changed the powder of galls to a deep purple". That was not a shot in the dark, for the book shows that he had a very good knowledge of chemistry. There were also curative baths at Corstorphine.

And now we come to the case of Geordie Leslie, who had got the whooping-cough. His mother, gave him a vomit of 16 grs of ipecac "but it wrought very weakly, so it was afterwards repeated as an infusion with ½ gr of tartar. But Geordie, by accident or design, contrived to spill about half of it and "it wrought very faintly, tho' I observed after this vomit that his face was very flushed and red. Coughing continued very violent with a difficulty of breathing sometimes

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as if he were going to choke. He was bled in the jugular to about 6 ozs and afterwards got Dr. Clerk's Scillitick mixture, a spoonful and a half at bedtime". There was only one size of spoon at that time, what later came to be known as a dessert-spoon, – equivalent to about two 5 ml spoons in volume. But Geordie was not the most co-operative of patients, for they could not prevail on him to take it, so he was blistered. On January 21, Geordie once more asserted his independence. They attempted to give him some rhubarb, but he took little of it. Despite continued treatment, he still had his cough on March 3, but he later made a good recovery.

There is a long account of the illness from smallpox of George Dundas, whose treatment gave rise to misgiving and self-questioning, illustrating very clearly the honesty and integrity of the Apothecary. He writes, following a visit: "His pulse this evening is very weak... I begin to think there were two or three errors committed in the management of Mr. Dundas.

1. His blood was let at first with too small an orifice.
2. We ought to have bled him the third time, viz. after the eruption was begun.
3. We should have stopped the first appearance of the purging.

"There were some things seemed unfortunate in Mr. Dundas's case, viz.: it was found that his Emulsion had been sweetened with Syrup of White Roses instead of sugar"... – "The stupor, I thought, indeed never quite left him after he was cured of the phrenitis by the force of opiates which, indeed, by oft-repeated doses quite felled him all of a sudden after the worst vomitings I ever saw. He always afterwards was confused. Might not this insuperable stupor be occasioned by the exclusive use of the syrups?" (i.e. the opium poppy), "notwithstanding the great enconiums of Sydenham to this method".

Members' Inquiries

Mumfergo Pills

In our examination of Cambridge documents we have found the following reference:–

Entry in the parish register of Tadlow, Cambs. "Goodman Parker reputed an hundred years old was buried on St. Michael's Day 1714. It was generally thought he prolonged his life by Mumfergo pills".

We should be grateful of any information about Mumfergo pills.

M. Newbold, Cambridge
T.D. Whittet, Harpenden

As we go to press we learn with regret of the death of Mr Newbold. He was known to members for his historical research, especially on medical personalities in Cambridge. Two papers at the Cambridge conference were based on his work – Editor.

Apothecaries Tokens

I am collecting information about apothecaries tokens and their owners with a view to publishing a book with biographical details of these persons. I have found numerous examples of tokens which are not recorded as being issued by apothecaries in "Trade Tokens" edited by G.C. Williamson, the standard work on the subject.

I should be most grateful if any reader who knows of similar examples would let me know. I am particularly anxious to trace examples of such tokens not mentioned in "Williamson".

I should also be glad of information on the following persons whom I believe may have been apothecaries:–

John Baker of Exeter, 1663
Wm. Faldo of Bedford, 1659
John Waller of Bedford, 1668
John Hill of Newbury, Berks.
Wm. Malthus of Reading, 1658
John Seymor of Wantage
John Duncombe of Wendover, 1664
Matthew Finall of Stony Stratford, Bucks.
John Nickles of Cambridge
Thomas Spry of Penryn, Cornwall
Amwell Gart of Lyme Regis, Dorset
John Noone of Bardfield
Richard Bush and Richard Cocke of Colchester, Essex
Richard Cockes of Gloucester
Perceval Wright of Tewksbury
John Hill of Ross-on-Wye, Hertfordshire
John Hill of Hereford, 1657
Dorothy Winter of Kings Gate, Winchester, 1667
Richard Pirton of Bishops Stortford, 1684
Joseph and Thomas Faircloth of Hatfield
John Skidmore of Rickmansworth
Thomas Nash of St. Albans
Thomas Burden of Canterbury
Robert March of Cranbrook
Henry Gippes of Greenwich, 1668
Joshua Crosbie of Ormskirk
Francis Sikes of Ashby de la Zouch
Wm. Fox of Louth
Robert Rainsford of Henley on Thames
Thomas of Norwich, 1657
Joshua Hill of Nottingham, 1667
James Beale of Hook Norton, Oxfordshire
John Powell of Taunton
Thomas Collins of Stafford
Richard Pellett of Chichester
Richard Hawks of Warwick
Thomas Hancocke of Westbury, Wilts.

Any information would, of course, be acknowledged in the eventual publication.

T.D. Whittet
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Harpenden, AL5 5QN

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Postal and Pharmaceutical History

Two papers on pharmaceutical involvement in philately were given to the Society on November 3 by D.F. Lewis, F.P.S. and G.R.A. Short, F.P.S., F.L.S. Mr. Short displayed examples of the first and of the most recent British postage stamps.

He said the significance of the specimens of the penny black and twopenny blue, which were launched by Rowland Hill on May 6. 1840 is that in the same year Edward Stanley Gibbons was born. He was the son of a Plymouth druggist. At the age of fifteen Edward entered the Naval Bank at Plymouth as a junior clerk, but very soon the death of his elder brother changed the course of his life. As a result Edward was transferred to his father's shop as an apprentice. In his spare time he was able to continue his hobby of stamp collecting. His father realising the profit making possibilities of the hobby combined with the business acumen of his son, set aside a desk in the shop for stamps – an early example of diversification in a druggist's business! Here young Gibbons founded what has become the most famous philatelic business in the world. In due course E.S. Gibbons sold the druggist's business and devoted his whole time to stamp trading.

Referring to the medicinal plant side of his talk Mr. Short showed a selection of stamps from Germany, Hungary, Roumania, Congo and Yugoslavia.

There were also a few sheets devoted to cocoa, coffee, tea and tobacco – articles which have been used in medicine.

He concentrated on the sets of Yugoslav specimens of which so far there had been ten in all, published at two yearly intervals. The stamps were some of the finest work of the Swiss printers, Courvoisier. The plants shown on the stamps had been described admirably by Professor Tucakov of Belgrade University they include

Hops. Hop gardens existed in France and Germany in the 8th and 9th centuries. It is said that a grant was made by William the Conqueror in 1069 for the cultivation of hops in Shropshire. In these early times hops were regarded as having medicinal properties. During the reign of Henry VI hops were considered as "an unwholesome weed" and also as a "wicked weed". Gerard explains that its use in beer "rather makes it a physical drinke to keep the body in health, than an ordinary drinke for the quenching of our thirst".

Adonis vernalis (Pheasants Eye) contains cardiac glycosides having a similar action to digitalis.

Syrup of Poppies is mentioned in about 1015 in the writings of Mesue the younger who was physician to the Caliph of Egypt. In the 13th century it was stated that "Poppy heads bruised in wine will induce a man to sleep soundly". Theophrastus in the beginning of the 3rd century B.C. was familiar with opium and Dioscorides in the 1st century A.D. described its method of collection.

Tobacco was first used by the American Indians as incense in the worship of the Great Spirit. The Spaniards first became acquainted with tobacco when they landed in Cuba in 1492, and on their return they introduced it into Europe as a medicine. It was some years later that it was brought to England direct from America, a small amount being brought by Drake; but it appears to have been introduced in quantity in the latter half of the 16th century by Ralph Lane, the governor of Virginia. However Raleigh made its use common and fashionable in England. Tobacco leaf appears in the B.P. 1867 together with Enema Tabaci (20 grains to 8 fl oz.) It was also included in the B.P.1885, but without the Enema.

Gentian has a very long history its name being derived from Gentius, a king of Illyria who lived in 180 to 167 B.C. Dioscorides described it in his Greek Herbal.

Belladonna was known in early literature under various Latin names but in an enumeration of medicinal plants of 1450 the leaves of Solatrum furiale are mentioned – this was probably Belladonna. The name was derived from the use of the juice of the berries by women of the 16th century in Spain and Italy as a cosmetic. They rubbed the juice on their cheeks to obtain a rosy colour; they also put drops in their eyes to dilate the pupils.

Centaury herb (Erythraea centaurium) contains bitter glycosides and has similar uses to Gentian it having tonic and stomachic properties. Professor Tucakov states that due to the excessive exploitation of this herb in Yugoslavia it has been necessary to protect it by law.

Valerian was included in Anglo-Saxon recipes of the 11th century. The odour of the root is due to a volatile oil containing bornyl iso-valerianate. If the root is dried too quickly the oil yield is reduced due to insufficient action of the enzymes on the glycoside. In Yugoslavia it is used as a carminative, stimulant and anti spasmodic. However, one wonders whether its medicinal action is real or due to the fact that medicines with objectionable odours and tastes must be beneficial.

Digitalis lanata is indigenous to Southern Europe. It is richer in cardioactive glycosides than *Digitalis purpurea. Digitalis ambigua* is included in the 1961 set and is equal in action to *D.purpurea* which was used in popular medicine as far back as the 10th century but was introduced into scientific medicina by Dr. William Withering of Birmingham in 1775 who learned from an old woman in Shropshire of its value in treating dropsy.

Male Fern rhizome was known as a vermifuge in the times of Theophrastus, Dioscorides and Pliny. It was administered during the middle ages and was noted by Valerius Cordus. A Geneva druggist recommended its use as an ethereal extract in 1825, but it was not used in England until about 1851.

Pomegranate (Punica granatum) fruit has been cultivated from remote antiquity there being reference to it in the 3rd century B.C. It is mentioned several times in the Scriptures. The root bark was found by Tanret in 1878 to contain four alkaloids of which Pelletierine was considered responsible for the taenicidal action.

Datura stramonium would appear to be indigenous to the old world but it was cultivated by Gerard in the 16th century from seeds of Constantinople origin.

Origanum majorana (Marjoram) was used by the ancient Greeks. It is alluded to in Halliwells *Popular Rhymes & Superstitions* where an old wife's tale is quoted– "On St. Luke's Day a girl should take marigold flowers, marjoram, thyme and wormwoood, dry them and sift to a fine powder and simmer over a slow fire, adding a small quantity of honey and vinegar. She should annoint herself with this when she goes to bed, saying the lines three times "St Luke, St. Luke be kind to me, In dreams let me my true love see".

Lily-of-the-Valley. The name *Convallaria majalis* is derived from the Latin meaning the May flower of the valley. It has a similar action on the heart to digitalis due to the presence of three glycosides.

Rosemary is mentioned by Pliny and was also familiar to the Arab physicians in the 13th century. It was probably cultivated in Britain prior to the Norman conquest. A writer of the 15th century describes it as a condiment of salted meats for which purpose it is used today.

Peppermint is somewhat confused with spearmint in old writings but it occurs as a distinct species in the London Pharmacopoeia 1721 and was cultivated at Mitcham from about 1750. In 1762 an apothecary named Juniper patented

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an Essence of Peppermint (see *Chemist & Druggist* Special Issue of 1936).

Linseed. Apart from the plant fibre, the seeds were used in very early times as a food; they were also mentioned by Theophrastus, Pliny and Dioscorides. The plant was propagated in Scandinavia before the 12th century.

Peony roots were held by Culpeper to be of more virtue than the seed; next the flower and last of all the leaves. He says it was found to cure the falling sickness (epilepsy) "Besides hanging the root about the neck, the washed root should be stamped somewhat small and infused in sack for at least 24 hours".

Primrose (Primula acaulis which is synonymous with Primula vulgaris) is mentioned by Gerard, and Culpeper says "Of the leaves is made as fine a salve to heal wounds as any that I know....do not (you that have any ingenuity in you) see your poor neighbour go with wounded limbs when an halfpenny cost will heal them".

Buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica) was well known to the Anglo-Saxons and was mentioned in medical writings before the Norman Conquest. Welsh physicians in the 13th century prescribed the juice of berries boiled with honey as an aperient.

Red Poppy petals were used as a medicine in Germany in the 15th century but the syrup is employed in pharmacy for its fine colour.

Mistletoe (Viscum album) was claimed by early herbalists to have superior qualities when growing on oak trees than that found on the apple or pear; but Culpeper disagreed with this. Clusius says that after gathering, the plant should not be allowed to touch the ground. Mistletoe was regarded by the ancients as a panacea against every disease.

Comfrey root when boiled in wine was considered by Culpeper "to help all inward hurts, bruises, wounds and ulcers of the lungs and to cause phlegm to be spit forth". He also stated that "the roots taken fresh, beaten small and spread upon leather and laid upon any place troubled with the gout, doth presently give ease of the pains. It profits very much for running and moist ulcers, gangrenes, mortifications and the like".

The Doctrine of Signatures

The theory was that the Lord provided herbs for the cure of man's ills and many plants gave an indication of their uses. This doctrine was widely accepted in the 16th century largely owing to the writings of Paracelsus, Crollius and Giovanni Porta. Poppy for example was considered good for brain disorders due to the shape of its head, but its soothing influence was more ancient than the Doctrine. Roses were recommended in blood disorders, rhubarb and saffron in bilious conditions and turmeric in jaundice purely on account of their colour. Chinese lantern (Physalis) was given to cleanse the bladder and urinary passages because of its inflated calyx. Euphrasia (eye bright) was useful in preparations for the eye as was indicated by the shape and markings of the flowers.

There were many other plants included in the Doctrine but the system did not last to any extent beyond the 17th century.

Mr. Lewis was especially interested in postal history before 1840 and showed items from his extensive collection.

He drew special attention to a letter dated January 11, 1664, from Syman Bayley addressed to Thomas Pengully, merchant at Ye Pestle and Mortar, Fenchurch Street, London, stating that "My aunt desires that you would be pleased to get her a toadstone – the best that you can get for the money. They are ordinarily gray but the black, as some say, is the better. That she leaves to your discretion..."

From early times the toadstone was reputed to possess the property of counteracting poisons. Another letter or certificate dated 1696 confirmed that a certain Mrs Wagstaff's indisposition was from a bruise and not The King's Evul. Another letter in the collection was addressed to The London Vaccine Institution in 1807, whilst one dated 1839 from Hong Kong appears to be an eye witness account of the beginning of the opium war.

There were letters concerned with preparations such as Jerusalem Eye Water (1713), Venice treacle (1790), dialysed iron (1883) to penicillin (1967). Another series concerning the period 1831–1847 was grouped under the heading "Cholera and disinfected mail".

In addition to the letters, Mr Lewis showed a number of underprinted stamps bearing references to the contemporary remedies and also a collection of medicine duty stamps. Then just to encourage his audience he showed three pages of pharmaceutical trade cards adding "There are about 6,000 different ones – if you want to get going".

Regret

At a recent committee meeting the President of the Society noted with regret that Mrs. Lakie was leaving the Pharmaceutical Society's employment and asked the committee's thanks to her for her work on behalf of the Society be recorded. Many members will also join in appreciation of Mrs. Lakie's work and her undoubted enthusiasm for pharmaceutical history. However, although no longer in active office, she is retaining membership of the Society.

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A Dated Slipware Drug Jar

by R.E.A. DREY

Drug jars inscribed with the name of the contents, as shown by dated specimens, began to be produced in England in about 1652[1]. Until the end of the 18th century such vessels were made of tin-glazed earthenware, at the Thamesside potteries of Lambeth and Southwark, at Liverpool and possibly in the West of England, at places such as Wincanton. In the last quarter of the 18th century creamware and transfer-printed earthenware containers gradually supplanted tin-enamelled pharmacy jars, whilst in the 19th century containers made of stoneware and glass were enlisted by pharmacists for storage of drugs.

To this range of materials we may now add slipware as medium of the pharmaceutical potter, on the evidence of a jar 21 cm in height, of Staffordshire origin, which some time ago came into the possession of the museum at Horsham, Sussex. The vessel is of cylindrical form with curving sides, everted neck and recessed base. Below the inscription

: V : RVB : DESICC :

there appears the date 1692. The drug name panel is surmounted by a head flanked by a pair of outspread wings, a type of decor known as the "Angel design", which was much in vogue on English tin-enamelled drug jars of the second half of the 17th century[2]. The ornamentation is executed somewhat summarily in traditional slipware style.

UNGUENTUM RUBRUM DESICCATIVUM ("Red Drying Ointment") was made from litharge, ceruse, calamine, camphor, Armenian bole, white or yellow wax, oil of roses and *Caput Mortuum* (a residue obtained in certain distilling operations). According to Quincy[3] the principal use of the ointment was in the treatment of chapped chilblains ("It drys, cools, and repels, and is pretty much in use for those Intentions; but so much for Kibes, which Children are very subject to in frosty weather, that it is often ask'd for by the common People by the name of Kibe-Ointment; for it cools and cicatrizes them very soon".)

It is not known whether the vessel in the Horsham Museum is a member of a series of jars, or whether it is a Staffordshire potter's isolated trial piece.

I am grateful to the Horsham Museum Society, and to Mr. K. Dunham, curator of the museum, for permission to reproduce the jar. Thanks are also due to Mr. J.V.G. Mallet of the Victoria and Albert Museum for drawing my attention to the object.

References

(1) Agnes Lothian, 'Vessels for apothecaries: English delft drug jars', *The Conncisseur Year Book,* 1953, pp. 113-121, fig. V; *ibid.*, 'The pipe-smoking man on seventeenth century English delft drug jars', *The Chemist and Druggist,* May 21, 1955, pp. 566-568, fig. 2.

(2) Agnes Lothian, 'Angels in the design of seventeenth century English delft drug jars', *The Chemist and Druggist,* June 25, 1955, pp. 732-736.

(3) John Quincy, *Pharmacopoeia Officinalis & Extemporanea, or a Compleat English Dispensatory,* London, 1718, pp. 459-460.

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Three 17th Century London Apothecaries

Richard Meynell • Charles Needham • William Booker

By J. Burnby

Richard Meynell and Charles Ne(e)dham were lads who were sent from the depths of the country up to the big city to make their way in the world, and possibly this was true of William too. Richard came from the North Midlands from a family of considerable renown, for the name of Meynell occurs on the Roll of Battle Abbey and the family have held lands in North Staffordshire and South Derbyshire for seven hundred years.

Richard's father Godfrey (a Meynell family name) was of Willington, Derbyshire and he died aged seventy-seven in 1667. He and his wife Dorothy Whitehall of Yeldersley, Derbyshire had the usual large brood of children but, rather more unusually, most of them survived. There were nine boys, John, Godfrey, Francis, William, Edward, Richard, Isaac, George and Thomas and one girl – Dorothy. The heir, John, named after his mother's father was killed at the battle of Burton Bridge in 1647 when fighting on the Royalist side. Francis and Isaac came to London to seek their fortunes, which they did most successfully, Francis becoming a goldsmith and Sheriff of London and Isaac a banker, the one and the other being more or less synonymous in those days. Edward, it seems went farther afield for he died at "Cormantine Castle" and this may well be the "Coromantine" of the early days of trading in India.

Richard on December 19, 1648 was duly examined, sworn and bound to William Page for eight years. By January 1656/7 he was taking what we must assume was his first apprentice, for "Richard Squire, son of Richard Squire of Tenterden in the County of Kent, gentleman" was bound to him "for eight years from the 25th March last". At the same time Richard Meynell (spelt Minnell) paid his ten shillings corn money. For some reason unknown Mr. Meynell upon the testimony of Warden Rhethorick allowed Richard Squire to take his freedom early, for on July 5, 1664 he was examined, approved, referred to the College and made free and he paid twelve shillings in lieu of giving a spoon to the Society of Apothecaries. Then rather curiously, he was turned over to John Royerd.

The following year, in May, that is in the peak of the Plague period Richard Squire married at St. Margaret Patten. In April 1663 Richard Meynell had taken on two apprentices, Stephen Jackson, son of Andrew Jackson, citizen and merchant-taylor of London, and also Richard Wynne, who in July 1657 had been bound to Robert He(a)dlam and now was by consent turned over to Mr. Meynell. He had thus for a short while three apprentices which was forbidden by the Society, however the Master and Wardens agreed to this on the condition that Meynell "came upon the Liverie at the next call" – which proved to be one week later.

The three Richards seem to have remained good friends for when their apprenticemaster made his long and complicated will on October 17, 1683, he remembered both of them. He gave five pounds to "Richard Wynne, apothecary in Tower Street, once my true servant" and he remitted the widow of Richard Squire, apothecary, "formerly my servant, the £10 bond due from her late husband." He also gave another apprentice of his Joseph Newborough five pounds.

Although Richard married he had no children or at least no surviving children and as a result he distributed his by no means inconsiderable estate amongst his large family. His goods, chattels, plate, rings, jewels, leases, "parts of shipps", other personal estate, freehold messuages or tenements with appurtenances lying in Mincing Lane, in the occupation of William Elsdon, his copyhold cottage and land with appurtenances in Stratford Langton, Essex in the occupation of Powell, yeoman, and all other lands, tenements etc in the City of London, Essex or elsewhere in England, he left between his only surviving brother, Thomas who was Prebend of Baswitch and Whittington, Staffordshire and Rector of Kirk and Meynell Langley, Derbyshire, and his nephew Francis Ullock who had shown him "great care and indefatigable pains". Every nephew and niece and even cousin and second cousin was remembered in greater or lesser degree including, "my nephew Godfrey, third son of my late brother William who hath taken ill courses and brought great sorrow and affliction", the executors being given fifty pounds to settle his debts.

He gave to the poor of St. Dunstan's in the East where he had lived since his apprenticeship, ten pounds and twenty pounds for "putting forth four decayed housekeepers children borne there and are of the Church of England, to handycraft tradesmen" and "£6 for a sixth bell to be hanged in the steeple, there having been a frame for one when I was churchwarden". He bequeathed twenty shillings per annum to the poor of the parish of Willington where "he and his ancestors were born" to be paid out of the rents of the lands called Powkehole at Repton; and he also gave forty pounds for books and furnishing to the school and library lately erected there. "To the Company of Apothecaries Whereof I am a member I give a silver bason and ewer of value £40 with my name and coat of arms engraved."

He wished to be buried in the vault under where the Sunday bread was distributed, where Mr. George "the citty plummer was interred" and a marble stone to be put over like that of Mr. Thomas Glover in St. Sepulchre's church. As a final act of generosity he invited to his funeral his eldest and constant patients or customers, kindred, friends and acquaintances up to two hundred and fifty men at least, members of the Company of Apothecaries and thirty governors of St. Bartholomews, to which he gave also fifty pounds for the poor, sick and lame.

Of a similar background was Charles Ne(e)dham. The apprenticeship records of the Society relate that Charles, son of John Needham of Horsepoole Grange Leicestershire, Gentleman was on the February 4th, 1678/9 apprenticed to Joshua Dreyver for eight years. Charles was then nineteen and the year previously his brother John had been admitted a pensioner at Queens College, Cambridge. One wonders why Charles started his apprenticeship at such a late age. His father also "John" had been at the time of the Restoration a Captain of Horse in Leicestershire and his mother Faith, was the daughter of a peer of Gloucestershire.

Within a few months of gaining his freedom he married Martha Gregory of St. Bartholomew's. Like Richard Meynell, Charles did not live to any great age, for he was only forty-seven when he made his will in January 1706/7 and died shortly afterwards. He left five pounds per annum, to be made

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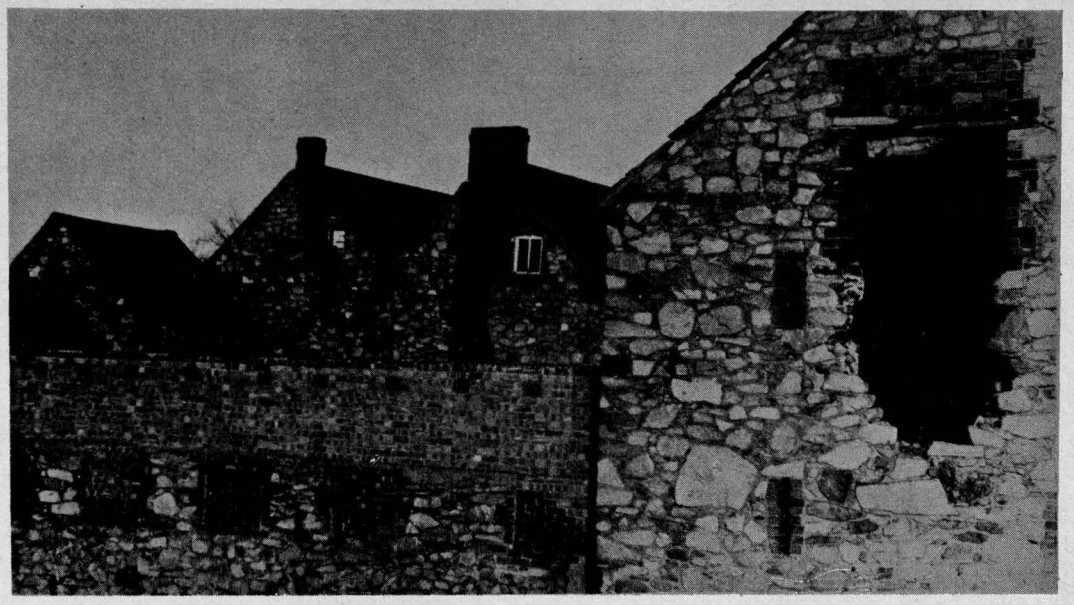

Horsepool Grange,
Stanton under Bardon,
Leicestershire.
The home of
Charles Needham.

Photographed in 1972

over four times a year to his father who, for those days was an old man of seventy-six, and thirty pounds, a silver watch, wearing linen and apparel to his brother John, now Rector of Thurnby, Leicestershire. Apart from a few bequests such as twenty pounds to his sister Ann Nedham and a guinea for a ring to Mr. William Pyle surgeon, he left the remainder of his estate to his daughter Elizabeth. The Executors were to be his brother and his good friends Charles Hooper, draper and Benjamin Charlewood of St. Pauls, Covent Garden, apothecary. These were important men in daughter Elizabeth's life for if she were to marry without their approval then she was to receive only the interest on her legacy "for her maintenance in life". Benjamin Charlewood, son of Andrew Charlewood of Kingston upon Thames, gentleman had been apprenticed to Mr. Gape in 1672 whilst *his* son Benjamin, rose to eminence for from 1738 to his death in 1766 he held the post of Apothecary to the Person in the Royal Household.

Contemporary with these two men and one who with Meynell shared the horrors of the Plague and the Great Fire of London, was William Booker. He received his training from William Hardy and in July 1657 was made free. On May 26, 1666 the Society of Apothecaries being in dire financial straits decided to order "that there bee a call upon the Liverie and that Thomas Langham and all his Seniors be called on the Liverie" upon which call twenty-five members including Richard Meynell accepted and eighty-four amongst whom was William Booker "rifused or neglected or fyned." It would seem that Mi. Meynell felt himself to be in happier circumstances than Mr. Booker, which is further confirmed by the fact that he gave eight pounds to the Re-building Fund.

William Booker certainly had at least one wealthy patient and customer for on December 19 1682 he received £19-10-0 from Sir John Bright. Sir Johnson of Stephen Bright of Carbrook Hall Sheffield, Westwall Hall Eckington Derbyshire and the Manor of Totley, was a great Parliamentarian. When war broke out he was active in South Yorkshire and district in raising troops and in May 1643 served with Fairfax as a Colonel in the attack on Wakefield. This however did not prevent him from coming to terms with the new situation at the time of the Restoration and in July 1660 he was made a baronet.

He married four times but no son survived him. It was his third wife, Frances Vane, daughter of Sir Thomas Liddel of Ravensworth, whom William Booker supplied with drugs and prescriptions and probably visited from December 25, 1681 until September 15, of the following year when she died after only a few monthes of marriage. My lady had numerous bottles of a bitter tincture, a pectoral syrup, "papers of Pearle and Corall" Lucatella's balsam, spirit of castor, carminative bole and juleps, a plaister for the side and for the stomach and many bitter aporemes.

Mr. Booker also seems to have supplied other members of the household, for Mrs. Broom had a "Hystericall julip and Histericall pills" and "liquirish pills and roots" of each one ounce, whilst the unfortunate young Richard was well dosed with purging electuaries and bole (repd.). He also sold to the Bright menage "Blew figs" and "Jews Ears", "Junip Berrys" rosemary flowers and nutmegs.

William Booker of course trained apprentices in his excellent practice and shop and these included John Harcourt and James Agyryck, son of a distiller. On March 7, 1692 "Nathaniell Booker, son of William Booker, a member of this Company haveing been bred up under his said father in the art of an apothecary was examined sworn and made free". So one may hope that the business would be carried on into the next generation.

These were three men who made a more than adequate living from their profession at a time when it is surmised that the apothecaries were increasingly turning away from pure pharmacy to the practice of medicine.

Acknowledgements:

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Sources:

The Wolley Ms. British Museum.
The Needham Ms. John Rylands Library
The Records of the Society of Apothecaries. Guildhall Library
The Apothecaries in the Great Plague of London. T.D. Whittet
The Wentworth Woodhouse Muniments. The Sheffield City Libraries.
The Royal Apothecaries. L.G. Matthews.

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The Control of Woolsorter's Disease

By Dr. W. Cunningham

This is the story of two Scottish medical graduates, Dr. John H. Bell and Professor F.W. Eurich. It concerns their conquest of that scourge of the workers in the woollen industry known as "woolsorter's disease". The anthrax bacillus can affect man in three forms: first, skin infection, known as malignant pustule; secondly, pulmonary infection by inhalation of bacilli or spores, known as woolsorter's disease; and thirdly, gastro-intestinal infection by ingestion of bacilli or spores. All these forms are serious and the pulmonary and gastro-intestinal forms were invariably fatal. They are rare now as the result of the work of these two men.

The city of Bradford, set amidst the Pennines, was the site of their labours. This community has risen from a small village beside the broad ford over the beck to a great city, by manufacturing and trading in wool, and has gained world-wide recognition as the centre of the wool trade. Its citizens, honest hard-headed Yorkshire folk and good business men, yet have an appreciation of music and art, fostered by refugee families from Germany in the middle of the last century. Good descriptions of the city and its people can be found in the works of J.B. Priestley, one of its distinguished sons.

In earlier times woolsorting was considered a healthy occupation – C.T. Thackrah of Leeds (1832) and James (1857) both considered it so. James commented on the number of healthy old men in this class. This was true until the middle of the 19th century, when wool and hair from the East were introduced to the trade. Sudden fatalities began to occur among the woolsorters. For several reasons they did not attract special attention. The symptoms often were vague and varied. The sufferer might complain of tiredness, joint or chest pains, and continue at work but die at home a few hours later. The worker affected was poorly paid and tried homely remedies first, seeking medical aid as a last resort. The medical profession did not know the cause of the condition. It was not recognised as an entity, and bacteria were not known to cause disease in man. So the deaths were certified as due to pneumonia, pulmonary embolism, aneurism and other causes.

By the 1870s, deaths from woolsorter's disease were still increasing, with the increasing use of Eastern wool and hair. The workers felt there was an association between these, and concern and fear grew among the people in the West Riding.

John H. Bell was born at Bradford in 1832, of Scots parents. His early education was at Anwoth in Galloway, where his uncle was schoolmaster. It was completed in Bradford. Leaving school at fourteen years of age, he served a six-year apprenticeship with a local doctor. Later he became assistant to Dr. Braithwaite, a lecturer in the Leeds Medical School. He attended classes there, taking a high place in his year, and qualified M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. in 1857. In 1863 he graduated M.D. at St. Andrews University. He practised in Bradford and was joint founder of the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital and Honorary Surgeon there for forty years. He was also the first man to describe nystagmus.

Dr. Bell became deeply concerned about the sudden deaths of young able-bodied men in the wool trade, many of whom were his patients. At first he thought the cause of woolsorter's disease was due to germs or bacteria produced by decomposing animal matter in the wool bales, but later Dr. Eddison of Leeds, who had been visiting bacteriological laboratories in Europe, suggested to him that woolsorter's disease might have some connection with the splenic fever of sheep or cattle, which Kooh had shown was caused by anthrax bacillus. Bell made further tests, inoculating certain animals with blood from people who had died of woolsorter's disease. All the animals died and he found the anthrax bacillus present in their blood. By the end of 1879 he had satisfied himself that woolsorter's disease was due to infection by the anthrax bacillus. Only a small number of colleagues supported his views. Many still would not agree that there was such an entity as woolsorter's disease. However, Dr. Bell roused public attention when he certified the death of one of his patients as due to anthrax, and added, "from his employer's neglect in not having the mohair he was sorting, disinfected beforehand".

The inquest which followed aroused widespread public interest. The jury found death to be due to "bloodpoisoning, accidentally resulting from his employment sorting mohair". They added important recommendations based on Dr. Bell's preventive measures, namely that the wool be soaked in hot soapy water and sorted when damp, and that provision of washing facilities be made for sorters. They hoped laws would be passed to enforce preventive measures. None were passed for years, but workers and employers observed them voluntarily and deaths from woolsorter's disease were markedly diminished. Dr. Bell's findings were confirmed by three separate investigations by (1) the Bradford Medico-Chirurgical Society, (2) the Board of Agriculture, and (3) the Local Government Board.

Dr. Bell knew about anthrax spores but did not realise how resistant they were to heat and adverse conditions. So deaths, though reduced, still occurred and no real progress was made for many years. Meantime a second Scottish graduate, Dr. F.W. Eurich, was appointed assistant physician at the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital. He and Dr. Bell became friends and Bell thought highly of his keenness and ability and passed on all his recorded case notes to Dr. Eurich when he retired. In 1905 Dr. Eurich was appointed a member of the Anthrax Investigation Board for Bradford and District and given the duty of conducting the medical and bacteriological work of the Board.

Frederick William Eurich was born at Chemnitz in 1867. The family came to live in Bradford in 1875 and took out naturalization papers in 1880. Eurich was educated at Bradford Grammar School, and commenced to study medicine at Edinburgh University in 1886. He had a happy life there and qualified M.B., C.M. with Honours in 1891. He was interested in neurology and pursued post-graduate study at Heidelberg and Frankfurt. Next followed a period as third physician and pathologist at Whittingham Asylum near Preston, where he gained a wide insight into mental diseases and wrote a thesis on "The Neurolgia", for

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Abstracted from a paper given at a joint meeting of the Scottish Society and the Scottish Society of the History of Medicine.

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which Edinburgh University awarded him the degree of M.D. with Gold Medal. He commenced general practice in Bradford in 1896. He was appointed assistant physician at the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital (where he met Dr. Bell), and honorary assistant physician at the Royal Infirmary, in 1899.

Dr. Campbell was senior physician at the Infirmary and also Professor of Forensic Medicine at Leeds. He persuaded Eurich to assist him with classes there and eight years later, on Campbell's retirement, Eurich was appointed Professor at Leeds in his place and held this chair with distinction until 1932. On becoming full physician at Bradford Royal Infirmary in 1907 he gave up general for consulting practice.

Eurich had been appointed bacteriologist to the City of Bradford in 1900, at a salary of £100 per annum and a grant of £150 to equip his laboratory – a "room" in the Technical College, which turned out to be a corner of a class-room 8 feet by 10 feet and with no direct daylight. He dubbed it "the Rathole". His work for the Anthrax Investigation Board began there in 1905 and it was 1917 before success crowned his efforts.

Employers sent him samples of wool which had been handled by sorters who had developed anthrax. Eurich showed that dried blood and blood serum adherent to the wool fibres carried the spores and even apparently clean samples of wool and mohair might be thus infected. Having examined 1400 samples he concluded that East Indian goat hair and East Indian cashmere and Egyptian wools were the worst offenders. After many years of patient experiment Eurich found that a 2 per cent solution of formaldehyde at 100°F killed all anthrax spores in 30-35 minutes. Success was achieved in 1917. The process may be summarised as follows:-

After the wool bales were opened they were immersed in three baths, the first of warm water and alkali and the second of warm soapy water (these soften and gelatinise the clots). The third was of formaldehyde in an enclosed chamber, in order to disinfect the wool. The wool was passed through and compressed by sets of rollers between the baths, to disperse air bubbles and break up clots, thus allowing the formaldehyde to act. Finally, a moving lattice carried the wool to a drying chamber. It remained there for two to three days, the formaldehyde still acting, after which all spores were found to be killed. A large number of independent tests confirmed these findings, and in 1926 the Government Disinfecting Station was built, capable of disinfecting 10-12 million tons of wool per annum.

Professor Eurich retired in 1937. The medical profession gave a dinner in his honour, the wool trade presented him with a handsome cheque, and the Textile Institute at Manchester awarded him their Gold Medal, but he received no recognition from his country or his city.

Britain's Treasure House of Records

By T.D. WHITTET

It was not until recently that pharmaceutical history began to be studied in Great Britain other than by a few individuals.

This is surprising since this country must possess some of the richest and most comprehensive collections of records in the world.

One of the earliest books on pharmaceutical history was John Mason Good's "The History of Medicine as it relates to the Profession of the Apothecary",[1] published in 1796. This was, however, a medico-political tract rather than a serious attempt to trace the history of pharmacy in these islands.

It was followed in 1880 by "Historical Sketches of the Progress of Pharmacy in Britain"[2] by Jacob Bell and Theophilus Redwood, by Barrett's "History of the Society of Apothecaries of London" [3] in 1905, several books by C.J.S. Thompson[4,5,6] (between 1897 and 1932) and James Grier's[7] History of Pharmacy, (1937).

It was not, however, until 1962 that Leslie Matthews[8] published his "History of Pharmacy in Britain" which was the first systematic account of the subject. His later book, "The Royal Apothecaries"[9] published in 1967 was largely based on original sources and the notes and references there are extremely valuable. Another of our members, Professor George Trease[10] published in 1964 his "Pharmacy in History" which also incorporated a considerable amount of his own work.

My Sydenham lecture "The Apothecaries in the Great Plague of London of 1665",[11] delivered in 1965 but not published until 1971, was almost entirely from original documents and contained many notes and abstracts of them. All of these publications can be used as sources for references to original manuscripts.

In my "Project for a Directory of Provincial Apothecaries"[12] published in this Society's Pharmaceutical Historian in 1970, I mentioned many of the types of records available and since its publication several persons have suggested additional sources.

I propose to refer, briefly, to some of the most useful types of original documents and other sources.

Among local city, town, county and borough records are minute books which go under various titles (e.g. The Coventry Leet Books). There are also muniment books, lists of admission of Freemen and, in a few places, surviving records of ancient gilds. Some of these records have been printed whilst others remain as manuscripts. The proceedings of the various local archeological, historical and topographical societies frequently contain transcriptions or summaries of such records or articles based on them. Some local history books such as the Victoria County Histories contain occasional references to apothecaries and chemists and druggists. The directories of cities and towns from about the mid-18th century frequently give the names and addresses of medical, pharmaceutical and allied practitioners.

The registers of many churches go back as far as the 16th century and occasionally even earlier. The records of births, marriages and deaths are often very useful as they may include the occupation of the husband or father. Mr Newbold

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has drawn attention to the especial value of the accounts of the Churchwardens and of the Overseers of the Poor since these frequently contain details of payments to apothecaries for the treatment of the sick. Parish workhouse records are similarly useful.

Church memorials to numerous apothecaries are still in existence and, in some instances, memorials have been recorded in books which is especially useful when the originals have been removed or destroyed.

Many wills and inventories are in the Public Records Office and in county and city Record Offices. Lists of many of them have been published by various socieites which specialise in the publication of ancient documents.

Inventories are specially useful as the contents may show a person to have been an apothecary, even if he were called a barber, surgeon or a mercer if, for example, in his city the apothecaries were members of the barber-surgeons' or mercers' gild, which was not uncommon in the provinces.

Between the 16th and 18th centuries episcopal licences to practice medicine, surgery, pharmacy and midwifery were granted by the Episcopal Courts and numerous lists of these are still extant in diocesan archives in various parts of the country. These represent one of the most valuable, almost untapped, sources of information about such practitioners, especially as the person applying for the licence had to give the names of several sponsors who were usually fellow practitioners and these names are also recorded.

There is a complete record of all the bindings and most of the freeings of apprentices of the London Society of Apothecaries in its archives. Those before about 1700 are scattered through the minute books but since then separate books have been kept. The records of the Company of Mercers, Grocers, Ironmongers and Apothecaries of Chester are similarly complete.

In the Public Records Office there are many volumes of the binding of apprentices of London, Scotland, Wales and the provinces. Mrs. Burnby has transcribed all of those referring to apothecaries, pharmacists, physicians and surgeons and some allied occupations. These lists will be extremely valuable both for giving us the names of Scottish, Welsh and provincial practitioners, and, when we have been able to put all the names on card indexes, in enabling us to trace the migration of many persons between London, Scotland, Wales and the provinces.

Mr. Newbold has drawn my attention to the Quarter Session Records which show who were the medical officers of the prisons and often the fees paid to them. They include numerous apothecaries.

In the archives of Cambridge, Oxford and the four ancient Scottish Universities there must be very many documents valuable for pharmaceutical and medical research. Mr. Newbold has made an extensive study of those in Cambridge.

Numerous apothecaries issued trade tokens in the 17th century and many are listed in William Boyne's standard work "Trade Tokens" which was revised by Williamson and reprinted by B.A. Seaby Ltd. in 1967.[13] I have found very many tokens listed in that publication were issued by apothecaries although they are not mentioned as such on the token or in the book. In some instances they may be listed as mercers, grocers or surgeons. As we obtain more complete lists of 17th century apothecaries we shall find many more.

Collections of trade cards exist in the British and other museums. Several books have been published about shop signs which were common in the 16th and 17th centuries All of these contain many references to apothecaries. Old newspapers frequently contain advertisements of apothecaries and Chemists & Druggists and collections of these are in various city and county archives.

The collected papers of some distinguished families exist in local archives and there are numerous important collections of documents in the British Museum e.g. the Sloane Manuscripts and the Harleian documents, and in other libraries e.g. the Huddleston Papers and Lady Cotton's account book in the Cambridge County Record Office.

Many diaries and journals, both printed and manuscript, are available.

At a recent meeting of the History of Medicine Section of the Royal Society of Medicine the director of the Historical Manuscripts Commission outlined the many valuable documents in the Commission's collection and gave advice on the use of them for historical research.

A few pill-tiles and numerous mortars bearing the names of their owners are still in existence. I recently came across a mortar in an antique shop in London bearing the name Michael Jones and the date 1677.

In the 16th and 17th centuries it was customary for the names of subscribers to books to be printed in them as appendices. These lists often contain the name, address and occupation of the subscriber and are valuable means of tracing apothecaries and other medical personnel.

The School of Education of the University of Newcastle-on-Tyne launched in 1972 a Book Subscription Lists Project aimed at the location, collection, classification and listing, ideally of all subscription lists, including those differing in various editions of the same work. The names on the lists are eventually to be filed on a computer to produce an ABC sorting.

To summarise, Great Britain has an enormous amount of material for pharmaceutical historians, much of it scarcely examined. This brief account can outline only a few of the most important and I am conscious that there may well be many more valuable sources which have not yet come to my notice.

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Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S., D.B.A. 17 Bloomsbury Square · London · W.C.1.

Officers

During the committee meeting held June 18, the following office-bearers were re-appointed for 1975-76:

President:	Dr. J.K. Crellin
Vice President:	Mrs. J. Burnby
Secretary:	Miss D.A. Hutton
Treasurer:	Mr. J.C. Bloomfield.

British Pharmaceutical Conference

The History of Pharmacy session will be held in the teaching centre of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. This centre, opened in 1974, is constructed in the original hospital founded in 1771. At the end of the session there will be an opportunity to see the teaching centre and the Hospital's new pharmaceutical department. Programme is:—

2.00 p.m. 'The Norwich School of Lithotomy' by Dr. Batty Shaw, Consultant United Norwich Hospitals.

3.15 p.m. 'Animal Chemists and the Urinary Stone' by Dr. N. Coley, M.Sc., Ph.D., lecturer in History of Science at the Open University.

Session 1975-76

Always ready to copy a "good thing", the Committee is trying to arrange a "Going for a Pharmaceutical Song" afternoon sometime during November, on similar lines to the successful meeting recently held at Cardiff. A possible evening meeting early in 1976, dealing with "Edwardian Pharmacy" is being considered. The secretary is currently approaching experts in that field.

Members are recommended to pencil in their diaries the date March 26-28, 1976, and ear-mark it for the Spring Conference to be held in Chester, when the main theme is to be "Industrial Pharmacy".

New members

The Society's membership has been somewhat static during the last few years. The Committee would like to receive from members suggestions whereby the membership can be increased or new members attracted.

A visitor

Dr. Parascandola, director of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy, is spending a few months in London. He is known to a number of members of the Society who are looking forward to welcoming him and having the opportunity of discussing matters historical with him. The Committee is hoping that Dr. Parascandola will be able to give a talk at an evening meeting of the Society. If that can be arranged, details will be published later.

Congratulations

Dr. T.D. Whittet, a past president of the Society and Chief Pharmacist Department of Health and Social Security, has been appointed Chairman of the Faculty of the History and Philosophy of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London.

An appeal

The Editor regrets that he has found it necessary to coerce members of the Committee to help him fill this issue of the Historian. He would like to see other authors competing for a space in the Newsletter, and invites members to submit "copy" before October 31 for possible inclusion in the next issue.

Medical Men as Mapmakers

By LESLE G. MATTHEWS

Many medical men have led or accompanied expeditions to various parts of the world. Some, like John Davidson, FRS an early 19th century partner in Savory & Moore of Bond Street, and David Livingstone, have explored territories previously unknown. Two however, confined themselves to this country:- William Cuningham and Christopher Packe.

William Cuningham (or Keningham) was probably born in Norfolk in 1531. He was admitted to Corpus Christi, Cambridge, matriculated in 1551, and graduated M.B. in 1557. He studied at Heidelberg and is believed there to have been awarded the degree of M.D. On his return to Norwich he changed his name from Keningham to *Cuningham* but for what reason no one knows.

It was whilst in Norwich, practising as a physician, that his lifelong interest in astronomy, astrology and surveying began. He left Norwich for London in 1559, taking up residence in Coleman Street, behind the Guildhall in the City. He had been appointed a public lecturer at Surgeons' Hall in 1563 though their Court Minutes do not appear to record this. No date of death is recorded for Cuningham nor is his place of burial known. The lists relating to the churches in the neighbourhood of Coleman Street have been searched without success.

His claim to distinction in the map making world is that he published the *first* town plan in this country – a plan of the City of Norwich. This grew from his interest in cartography, as shown in his *'Cosmographical Glasse,* containing the Pleasant Principles of Cosmographie, , Geographie, Hydrographie, or Navigation'. This is a treatise in folio of some 200 pages well illustrated and written in the style current in his day of a dialogue between instructor and pupil, between Philonicus (the Teacher) and Spondoeus (the Scholar). The book was printed by John Day of London in 1559 though written before Cuningham left Norwich.

The lines on the title page read:

"In This Glasse if you will beholde
The sterry Skie, and Yearth so wide,
The Seas also, with windes so colde,
Yea and thy selfe all these to guide:
What this type meane first learne a right,
So shalt the gayne they trauaill quight."

The book is dedicated to the Rt. Honourable the Lorde Robert Duddely, K.G., Maister of the Horse to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, and whose patronage Cuningham sought. This was the Dudley who was the Queen's favourite and who was afterwards created Earl of Essex.

The chapters are headed:

1. An apologie – 2 books; 2. A new Quadrant of no man ever published – 2 books; 3. The Anatomical Ring – 2 books; 4. Organographia – 3 books; 5. Gazophilacion Astronomia – 16 books; 6. Chromographia – 12 books; and Commentaries in Hippocrates de aere, aquis, et Regionibus – 3 books.

Cuningham is credited with extended essays on these subjects but they were not published.

There is an address to Gilbert Barclay of Lincoln. This recalls the weighty matters that Egypt and Greece produced and which Rome emulated. It goes on to talk of the sharp mind that the author, Cuningham, brings to bear on the County of Norfolk. The *Preface* sets out the dignity and ample use that can be made of Cosmography, for example, the variety of regions, winds, airs and waters that can be helpful. Cuningham says it is good to be able to study all these things by such a book as his, in one's own warm house, without molestation and with no unwelcome conditions. Those who wish to travel by land or water can do so with his *Cosmographia.*

Facing the *Preface* is Cuningham's portrait – a young man aged 28, in Tudor dress. Before him is a botanical work open, Book III of Dioscorides, and his right hand rests upon a globe, a landscape in the background. Round the portrait, in Greek a quotation which may be translated as 'The Great happiness is to be envious of none!

Cuningham quotes from Ptolemy that 'Geography is the verification and description of the face and picture of the earth with her parts known, and of such things as are connected and joined to it'. Finally, Cuningham says, for Chorography (the description of a particular district), 'I have placed the excellent City of Norwich as the form of it is at this present, 1558'. Although this plan of Norwich is the only one included in the book there is little comment on it. At the back of the plan is an alphabetical list of references, one of which, St. Leonards, is 'the place where men are customarily burnt'. Cuningham states merely that 'Norwich, an healthful and pleasant citie, having a faire river called Yerus, running through it', adding, 'Norwich is much subject to fires which have not a little hindered the beauty thereof'; as well they might in the first half of the sixteenth century when more than half the City was timber built. This then, is the first plan of Norwich, the first of any English city plans, and the one on which was based Hofnagle's map of almost 20 years later, published by Braun & Hogenberg.

An accomplished engraver

Cuningham was an accomplished engraver and some of the illustrations in his book were his own. The engraving of his plan of Norwich was probably done by two skilled engravers whose initials do not give sufficient for their identification.

It may be added that the book is full of astrological lore and of tables of eclipses which Cuningham had calculated for the 50 years following its publication. By using the methods he described he claims that the height of land can be calculated and surveys made of land and of the coastline. He gives, as a kind of gazetteer, details of most of the then known countries of Europe and Asia, including

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Thibet and China, then called Cathay. Altogether a unique compendium to have been compiled by one who was so skillful a physician and surgeon that soon after his arrival in London he took up his post as a public lecturer at Surgeon's Hall.* Young, in the Annals of the Barber-Surgeons mentions the appointment of Cuningham as Reader in 1563. It is on record that Cuningham owed Richard Ferris, Serjeant Surgeon to Queen Elizabeth I £30 which had not been repaid when Ferris died in 1566.

Cuningham published among other works *Almanachs*+ for 1559, 1563 and 1656, a book of *Longitudes and Latitudes of Various Places,* the manuscript of which is recorded as in Caius's College, Cambridge, and *An Invective in defence of Astrology.* He wrote a recommendary epistle to Thomas Gale's *Certain Works of Chirurgerie,* 1586, a preface addressed to Professors of Chirurgerie of London, printed in Dr. John Hall's *Translation of Lanfrank of Milan's Chirurgerie Parva,* 1565. A letter of Cuningham's to Dr. John Hall is in Bodley's Library. Altogether, a man of parts.

Another first

Almost 200 years later than Cuningham, in 1743 to be exact, came another *first* in the map making world, this time the earliest map in England prepared with the intention of picturing the physical appearance of an area. This was the work of Christopher Packe, M.D. who practised in Canterbury. The map finally published by him was of East Kent though his first essay in map making was of an area within a three mile radius of Canterbury. This preliminary map he submitted to the Royal Society in November 1736 and it was that Society's high commendation that induced Packe to extend his work.

Christopher Packe was born in 1686, a grandson of Sir Christopher Packe, a woollen merchant who was Lord Mayor of London during part of the Commonwealth, and an M.P. Sir Christopher was one of the group of M.P.'s who besought Oliver Cromwell to take the title of King. Not unnaturally Sir Christopher was removed from office at the Restoration. His son, also named Christopher, and father of our map maker, was a chemist with a laboratory at the sign of the 'Globe and Chemical Furnaces' in Little Moorfields, London. This Christopher* who gave himself the title of 'Professor of Chemical Medicine', practised as a quack under the protection of Sir Robert Boyle and Edmund Dickinson, a physician to the King.

Our Christopher, the Canterbury physician, one of two sons of the chemist, is to be found in Munk's Roll. His brother, Edmund, also a chemist, called himself 'doctor' and carried on business at the 'Golden Head' in Southampton Street, Covent Garden.

The map is the earliest English map to picture the physical characteristics of an area. The intentions were to show heights by reference to a datum, and the form and character of the land surface as moulded by erosion or by deposition. In his book describing his intentions, *Ancographiasive Convallium Descriptio* Packe said the map had a philosophic object – "to exhibit the system of valleys, show the number, connections and extent, how all branches and channels of the rivers, rills and brooks, were fed from their origin to the sea"; all this within an area of 16 miles of Canterbury. Slopes of valleys were hatched, interfluves were white, and the whole was to exhibit the harmony of a landscape, not as in an ordinary map. Packe says he began his work to relieve the tedium of his many journeys to patients in the Canterbury district. He says too, that the valley system compares with the venous system of the body.

In preparing his preliminary submission to the Royal Society in 1736 he pointed out the use of valleys in draining both water and stagnant air from the land. It was his view that the earth's surface in East Kent was just as the Flood had left it, apart from natural erosion and deposit. The Royal Society approved his plan and Packe then extended it to a radius of 16 miles from Canterbury. He was a methodical worker. He took his bearings by an azimuth compass from a specially erected scaffold set up on the tower of Canterbury Cathedral, where he also took barometric readings, and he had as a check another barometer in his own house. He was the first in England to use altitude figures and he surveyed all the heights shown on his map. This was orientated with magnetic north of 14 degrees West.

What he had begun for private amusement, incited by curiosity, became an endeavour that took him nine years to complete. He used some unusual terms to denote his meaning. He noted paddocks where boars were put up for the making of brawn. He thought he had satisfactorily plotted the sites of Caesar's camps and his route through part of Kent. Packe was scornful of those who complained that no roads or bridges were shown on his map – any map maker could do this, he said. He finally produced 4 sheets, using the largest paper he could find, each 65 x 60 cms., on a scale of 1 : 42,240, 1½ inches to the mile, with a scale along the margins. He says he wanted to use colours, brown and green, to set off the drawings but this was too difficult for the printer and he had to content himself with black and white. He did use colour in his first plan to the Royal Society. His final map was engraved by J. Hyde. Packe's pioneering work has been commended by many cartographers and it set the pace for many others who have shown the physical characteristics of a country or area.

Packe died in 1749; he was then 73 years old. His son, another Christopher, born in 1728, was a doctor who died in 1800, aged 72.

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*The examiners in surgery with two masters and two stewards of the Anatomy conducted demonstrations and arranged the dinners which followed. The stewards dissected and prepared the body and the masters read lectures to the assembled surgeons and apprentices. There were four Public Anatomies a year, the cadaver usually being that of a malefactor. At times there were also Private Anatomies by permission of the Company, besides formal lectures. (Young, *Annals of the Barber-Surgeons).*

+This making of Almanachs and Prognostications seems to have been a usual ploy of medical men in the mid-16th century. Though they had been prohibited, probably on political grounds by an Act of 1541, this Act was repealed by Edward VI and thereafter many almanachs by distinguished medical men and divines appeared. William Bullen for example, author of the *Bulwark against Sicknes,* etc., published his Almanach in 1563-4.

*Christopher the chemist published several works, his chief being an English translation of the whole of John Rudolph Glauber's works. For this he purchased the original copper-plates in Amsterdam. He must have been an exceptionally good Latin scholar for the translation reads well. He included much scarce German material of Glauber but for the translation of this he says he had to rely upon a friend. Among his other works was a book on mineralogy and one on his own quack remedies.

Facing page: Portion of W. Cuningham's map of Norwich.

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Seen in the West Country

By T.D. WHITTET

Whilst on holiday in the West country recently I saw some items related to Herefordshire apothecaries which may be of interest to pharmaceutical historians.

The house of Mr. Sainsbury

In the *Hereford Times* November 21, 1966 there was an article about the 17th century house of an anonymous apothecary being moved through the centre of Hereford. The article stated that the house was haunted by the ghost of an apothecary who was said to have accidentally killed one of his apprentices by mixing him the wrong medicine. He is reputed to have hanged himself in the attic of the house in a fit of remorse.

The house was No.3 the High Street and in 1964 a large site including it was acquired for a modern Littlewood's store. Since the building is scheduled as an ancient monument, instead of being demolished the house was moved about 250 yards to High Town near to the Butchers' Guild House which is now a museum.

Eighteen months later the house was towed back to its original site. There it was slid into the partly completed steel framework of the new store.

It was moved on a timber trolley a few yards at a time along steel tracks and then was slid sideways on to a concrete base at ground level in the new store. The journey is said to have cost £50 a yard.

It seems a pity that the building was not left in the pedestrian precincts near the Butchers' Guildhall where it could have been seen much better. (Figure 1). All that can now be seen are two floors above the modern glass front of the new Littlewood's store and it seems incongrous. Alternatively the original ground floor front should have been left. There is no notice on the building to indicate the origin or the history of the house.

A local historian Mr. C.G. Marchmont has told me that the name of the apothecary was Sainsbury and that whilst it is true that he hanged himself in the attic there is no evidence for the story that he did so because he had poisoned an apprentice. The legend that the house was haunted arose because some apprentices later rigged up a ghost in the house.

The Coningsby Hospital

This most interesting building adjoins the ruins of the mediaeval monastery of the Knights of St. John. It still houses several pensioners who wear a uniform resembling that of the Chelsea Pensioners. Indeed local legend holds that Nell Gwynn, a native of Hereford, persuaded Charles II to found the Chelsea Hospital and that its uniform was based on that of the Coningsby Hospital.

The beautiful chapel has been restored and there is an interesting exhibition in the ancient building.

Apothecary's apprentice in trouble

Among the Hereford records is a petition of 1575 to the Corporation from an apothecary called Richard Bagge asking for the liberation of a youth, presumably an apprentice, who had been imprisoned for stealing some medicines.

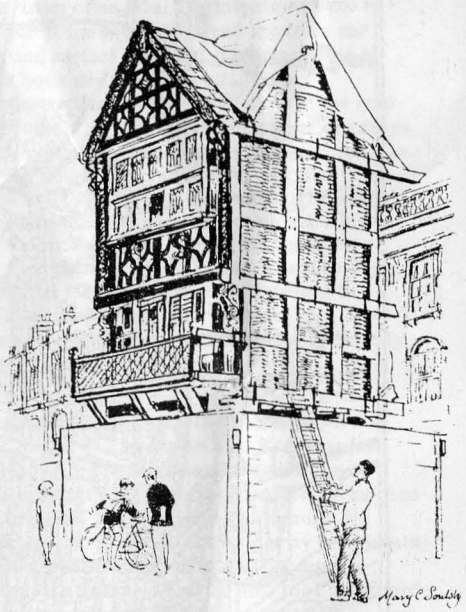

Figure 1

From the Society's Collection

A set of 16 cards illustrating items from the historical collection of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (£1) has been published. A 10-page booklet supplied with the cards gives a detailed description of each item, and its pharmaceutical and historical background. In brief, the set includes four illustrations from *Ortus Sanitatis,* a materia medica reference work produced at Mainz in 1491; four cards illustrate English delftware drug jars (1650-1725) and one illustrating Italian maiolica jars of the 16th and 17th centuries; another card is of a rare English delftware apothecary's title; two cards illustrate bell metal and ligum vitae mortars and pestles; and four cards reproduce botanical illustrations from J.J. Plenck's *Icones Plantarum Medicinalium* (Vienna 1788-94).

The selection was made by Robert G. Todd, F.P.S., keeper of the historical collection. The items were photographed by Anthony Devis of the Society's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Mortar of Charles Angibaud, apothecary to Louis XIV

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(p455 - 546)

Apothecary-members of Dorchester

On 26 June 1610 James I granted a charter to the Borough of Dorchester in which it was laid down that "no person not being a free burgess or free inhabitant of the Borough may exercise any art, occupation or mistry or use any shop or station for sale therein except in time of fairs or markets". The penalties were fine, forfeiture and imprisonment. The Bailiffs and Capital Burgesses of the Borough[1] were given power to make byelaws. Fourteen byelaws or Constitutions were issued on 22 October 1621 setting up the Company of Freemen of the Borough of Dorchester under a Governor, four Assistants, a Receiver, Clerk and beadle. Members of the Company were to meet in Hall four times a year. Membership was open to all freemen and all free inhabitants of the Borough and to apprentices who had served their time. Handicraft men paid 12d, all others 2s.

New Regulations were issued on 24 September 1630 and under these tradesmen and handicraft men were divided into 5 Companies. The first, The Merchants Company, in which there were 10 groups, included merchants, mercers, grocers, apothecaries and barber surgeons. The other four Companies were named respectively, Clothiers, Ironmongers, Fishmongers, Shoemakers & Skinners. Membership of these was not restricted to the trades named but included tradesmen and artificers analagous to the titles of the Companies. One Warden was appointed for each Company. Governors were elected annually from 1621 to 1823. Under the Municipal Corporations Act of 1835 the Company of Freemen became outmoded and ceased to function.

Few apothecaries are recorded as members of the Company of Freemen between 1621 and 1835 but apart from the 17th century there were probably enough to meet the needs of the inhabitants. Only 7 names have been recovered so far:

Atkins, Richard. Date of membership not recorded. In 1659 he took Simon Eyre as an apprentice but apparently Eyre did not join the Company. Atkins was elected a Bailiff in 1670, a Capital Burgess and Mayor 1679. He became a J.P. On his death in 1683 he was buried in St. Peter's Church.

Bury, Nathaniel. Member 3.1.1633. Apprenticed to his father but the father's name does not appear as a member of the Company. When companies of private soldiers were raised locally in the 1730's Bury had the task of collecting monies weekly in the parish of St. Peter's to pay them.

Colston, Jasper. Member 7.11.1621, less than a month after its formation. Colston was an important burgess in the borough, one of many signatories to the Address to Charles II on his Restoration in 1660. Colston attended many of the sick poor in the borough and payments for this are recorded in the borough's accounts.

Cooper, Thomas. Member 4.10.1734. Capital Burgess and Bailiff in 1740 and in 1750. An Alderman some years before 1761 after being Mayor in 1753. He was a J.P., living in the parish of St. Peter's. He died in 1761.

Davis, William. Member 4.10.1734. Capital Burgess the same year; alderman 1767 and Mayor 1781.

Wood, Thomas. Member 26.9.1709.

Woolmington, John. Member 25.9.1707; Capital Burgess 20.7.1724; Bailiff 1728, after being Mayor in 1726.

The admission of *Thomas Serne* to the Company on 5.1.1699 is singular: he is described as having married a wife who was apprenticed for *20* years to an apothecary. (Is this the longest pharmaceutical apprenticeship on record?)

1. Under the Charter of James I fifteen leading freemen were to be styled 'Capital Burgesses'. When Charles I granted a further Charter in 1631 the same description continued for the Mayor and 14 other prominent officials and citizens.

Sources

The Municipal Records of the Borough of Dorchester, Dorset. Ed. C.H. Mayo. Exeter, 1908; *History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset.* Hutchins, John. Eds. Wm. Shipp & J.W. Hodson. Westminster, 1863, Vol. II. No wills of the apothecaries named appear in *Dorset Wills,* Brit. Rec. Soc. (22), 1900.

L.G.M.

A window found

Recently Mr. A. McGuckin, a committee member, was asked to trace the apothecary's window in St. Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The window had been taken out during the war and Mr. McGuckin eventually found it wrapped in sacking and stored in the crypt. The window was erected in the memory of a Joseph Garnett. Little is known of him says Mr. McGuckin except that he bought the shop of John Mawson when Mawson and Swan moved into Mosley Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne about 1840.

A reference to the window in an issue of the Chemist & Druggist (June 1909, page 950) states that the four panels of the window "show Garnett engaged as fulfilling Matthew XXV, 35-36. The windows of a chemist shop, coloured carboys and all, and the overhanging portion of the timbered house form a background." Mr. McGuckin will be pleased to receive any other information about Garnett.

Surviving Adelphi Ironwork

Precis of a lecture given at the Royal Society of Arts by Douglas Stephenson, B.Sc., F.P.S. on February 10, 1975.

Of the beautiful ironwork which once graced the Adelphi only a fraction now remains. Some of it has found its way into the Victoria and Albert Museum, but the greater part must have gone for scrap.

The brothers Robert and James Adam started their imaginative building scheme on the Thames embankment in 1768 at a time when cast iron was beginning to replace wrought iron on houses and in street furnishings; indeed, it would probably be fair to say that they, more than any other architects, towards the end of the eighteenth century, did much to accelerate the change. This is not surprising when we remember that the eldest of the four Adam brothers, John, was a director of the famous ironfounders company, Carron Company of Falkirk, from 1764, and that William, the youngest, was a partner in the firm of Adam and Wiggins, London agents for Carron Company.

Some short lengths of original wrought iron area railings with cast iron urns on the standards still survive, and there are some wrought iron balconies which are probably also original. The most frequently occurring original ironwork, however, is a cast iron balcony panel, having 'wave' border at the top and a design of heart-shaped scrolls with opposed horizontal 'anthemia' in the main panel,–the 'heart and honeysuckle' pattern. There are twenty three such balconies remaining in the Adelphi, six of them on the 'Lancet' building, no. 7 Adam Street. This pattern of balcony panel became very popular, and was widely used, especially in Southern England, on the long balconies and 'Trafalgar' verandahs which were built on houses in such numbers after the Napoleonic Wars.

There is no Adam ironwork on the Royal Society of Arts building. The present heavy street railings carry the name of the ironfounder, just discernible as 'W. & D. Bailey' of 'Holborn, London', a firm active in the early 19th century.

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Introducing the history of Russian Pharmacy

By R. FAYLE

"I didn't know there was any! .... which, of course, is an open invitation to an inquisitive mind to follow up this obscure and difficult subject.

Nothing at the present time is available in English and *all* material has to be located and obtained and then translated from the Russian (in most cases, in the older and now disused alphabets and using antique forms of the language). The results are, however, very rewarding and well worth all the enormous effort required.

Russian Pharmacy runs along *two* parallel lines of development.

Medicine men and witches were the founders of the very rich Russian "folk medicine", which still exists in the form of domestic nursing, using herbs and other proven remedies of antiquity.

"Official" Pharmacy began, very abruptly, in 1581, when Elizabeth I sent one of her apothecaries, James Frencham, in response to the request of IVAN IV (The Dread).

Frencham brought a large stock of medicines in his baggage, and a Court Pharmacy was established in the Kremlin. Until then the doctors had been Germans, Poles, Dutch, etc., and had "dispensed" their own medicines. The new Pharmacy made up prescriptions, examined drugs, advised on medical matters, arranged collections of herbs, distilled "waters" (i.e., spirits and vodka!), etc. Only the Royal Family and "close" nobility obtained their medicines from the Court pharmacy.

A second pharmacy was opened outside the Kremlin in 1672 and was supervised by the Court pharmacy. Here *all ranks* of people could be supplied, without previous petition to the Czar. Subsequently pharmacies appeared in Moscow in 1702 (military pharmacy), between 1702 and 1714 the first eight private pharmacies, in Kiev in 1775 ("for soldiers"), in Simbirsk 1778, in Nizhni-Novgorod and Perm in 1786. By 1843 there were only 1302 pharmacies, and the total grew slowly – 1582 (1856), 1860 (1877), 2766 (1886), 3133 (1895), 3270 (1896), 3356 (1897), 3413 (1898), 3456 (1899), 3452 (1900), 3757 (1904), 4523 (1910), 4700 (1916).

An important point in the history is the exile of Matveev in 1676. Artemon Matveev was a *very* powerful noble and foster-father to Natalia, who married Czar Alexei Mikhailovich (1645-76). On Alexei's death, Fedor III, sickly and very weak, became Czar. His younger brother, Ivan was feeble minded, and his half-brother, Peter was the obvious "best choice". But Matveev, as head of the Pharmaceutical Prikaz (Department) and *all* the doctors and medical affairs – was accused of poisoning Czar Fedor, with the aim of bringing his grandson, Peter, to the throne. He was exiled, after what appears (from statements in his own hand made during his exile – and which have been preserved) to have been a very biased trial by an antagonistic court. On Fedor's death, Peter, along with Sofia, came to power and brought back his grandfather at once. But Matveev's triumph ended abruptly in stark tragedy! Arriving in Moscow the evening of May 12, 1682, he met the Royal Family on the 13th, prayed with Patriarch Joachim on the 14th. On the 15th, the Streltsi regiments (Royal Bodyguard) revolted. Having been told that Matveev had killed Ivan V they tore him from beside the Royal Family on the Red Stairs in the Kremlin, and cut him to pieces. About 50 others, doctors and nobles, were also killed during the revolt, which permanently affected Peter's attitude to the Streltsi and is said to have caused much of his mental troubles – remembering that he was only a boy of eleven years at this time.

The Editor wishes all members
a Christmas of great happiness and
a new year that provides them with
the opportunity to put pen to paper
to help him fill the future
Pharmaceutical Historians.

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The Raggs of Edmonton Green

By J. BURNBY

During September 1972 the Pharmaceutical Society received a possibly unique gift from Mr. Hubert W. Ragg of Portsmouth. It consists of a large framed coloured transfer on glass, incorporating a modification of the Society's arms, and the words, "W.W. Ragg, Family Chymist. Associate of the Pharmaceutical Society". It now hangs in the museum at 17 Bloomsbury Square.

William Watkins Ragg was born in 1853, and qualified as a Chemist and Druggist on 16 June 1875; his certificate bears the names of William Martindale, Charles Umney and J.B. Barnes. He had been helped in his studies of *materia medica* and botany by a family friend, Professor William A. Tilden, but it was in microscopy that he became particularly interested. R.J. Mellowes of Bush Hill Parade, Enfield wrote in 1955 that he was associated with Professors Green and Greenish in numerous investigations, and that it was in Raggs shop on Edmonton Green that the use of agar-agar in marmalade was first detected by the prescence of the diatom 'Achneroid discus'. When Ragg died in 1930 he left a collection of geological specimens, and dried flowers and plants of the district which were still in excellent condition.

William Watkins was the only child of William Ragg, who was born in 1819 the son of a grocer in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. He came to Edmonton, Middlesex, then an attractive and well-to-do village seven miles from the bustle of London, in the 1830's, and in 1839 is said to have taken over an apothecary's business. Family tradition has it that he used to be called out to the farmers in the surrounding district and if the case proved too serious he then sent a message by the Hertford Mail coach for Dr. Watkins of Cheshunt. Frequently the doctor brought his daughter with him and this led to a romance between the two young people. If Dr. Joshua Watkins did practise at Cheshunt it was certainly only for a short period, for the Medical Directory for 1845 states he was then in Colchester and by 1847 at 11, Chandos Street, London, W.C. In the first Medical Register of 1859 he was still there. He became a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries in 1821 and a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1822. In any event on May 20 1852 at St. Michael's in the parish of St. Martin in the Fields, William Ragg, aged 33, druggist of Edmonton, son of William Ragg married Anna Maria Watkins, aged 25, daughter of Joshua Watkins, surgeon of 11 Chandos Street, Anna's brother Charles Stuart Watkins (L.S.A. 1854 and M.R.C. 1860) was house surgeon at Charing Cross Hospital and Surgeon-Accoucheur at the West London Lying-in Institution.

Post-master

William Ragg became a post-master, then called a letter receiver in the early days of the "penny post". The stamps were then in sheets of 240 and had to be cut apart with scissors. In 1880 the salary of the post-master was £30 a year. At the rear of the pharmacy on Edmonton Green a sorting office was built in 1886 at a cost of £180; the carpenters received 8d. an hour, bricklayers 9d. and labourers 6d. The post office was enlarged in 1902 but in spite of protests was closed in 1935. The *Post Office Magazine* relates a telling anecdote. On one occasion the horse mail carrying Her

The glass sign in The Pharmaceutical Society's museum.

Majesty's mail from Hertford to London arrived without a driver, without hesitation William donned his top hat, mounted to the box-seat and set off. He did not know the usual stops but the horses did – and these included not only the few post-offices but the more numerous inns en route! He was offered one shilling reward.

He was a member of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists, an early and short lived rival of the Pharmaceutical Society. He died in 1891.

William's only son married twice, and had a son and a daughter by his first wife, and four sons and three daughters by his second. Harry John, the eldest son qualified at the Square in October 1906, his certificate bearing the signatures of Frank Goldby of Enfield and of E. Saville Peck, but unhappily he died only three years later. Of the other four sons Douglas also died young and Frank was killed in the Great War. Clavell William sat his Preliminary examination but then forsook pharmacy for commerce. However he often returned to the shop to help out and in 1920 after serving in the army returned permanently. His younger brother Hubert, who had

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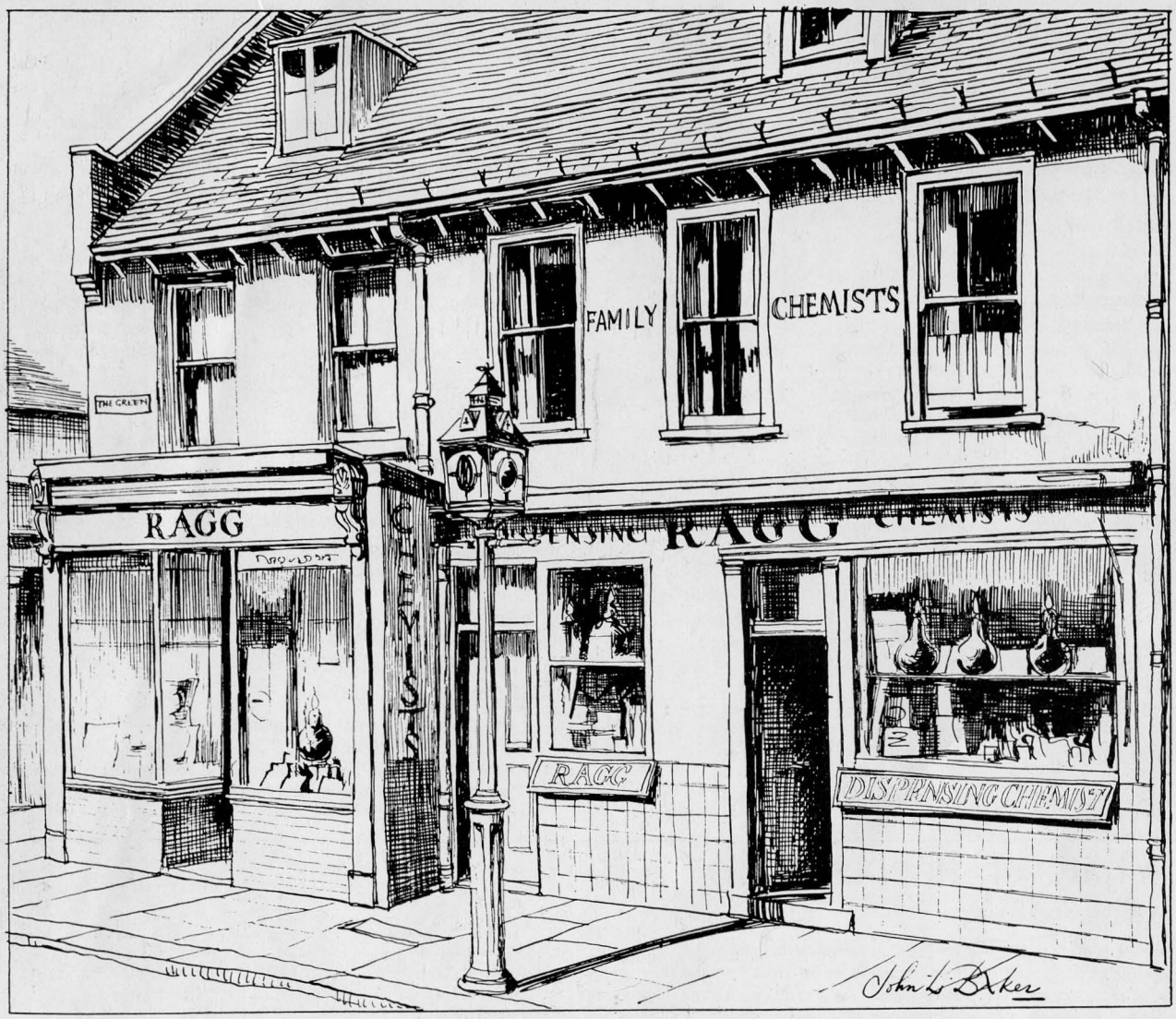

The pharmacy of Ragg Ltd, Edmonton in 1956. The lamp on the pavement with the red bull's eye glass was the property of the pharmacy.

Reproduced by courtesy of *Chemist & Druggist.*

been a sergeant-dispenser in the R.A.M.C. then joined him. The two brothers and their sister Kathleen D. Ragg, reputed to be very much the power behind the throne formed a limited company in 1931.

The old buildings of the shop, wantonly destroyed in the desecration and "re-development" of Edmonton Green were thought to be about 300 years old. The original gas lamp-post with a red bulls-eye glass still remained on the pavement outside and was the property of the pharmacy. In 1959 Clavell Ragg wrote, "1d. boxes of rhubarb pills, 1d. ointments and very small quantities of loose drugs was the order of the day in around 1900, but on Fridays the carriage folk came shopping. Coachmen and footmen with cockades in their tall hats drove smart paired-horse carriages to the shops, and sometimes flicked the windows to attract attention, when the proprietor with best Sunday coat on, white collar and cuffs, and often a dickey, bowed Madam into his emporium".

Married twice

Clavell Ragg like his father also married twice. First to Louise Buckley, a clerk in the post office, by whom he had one son Carlton Clavell, and then to Eva Young whom he had known all his life; her mother had run the old bakery on the other side of the Green and their respective fathers had been away to school together. Eva and he had no children.

Carlton did not practise pharmacy and so did not carry on the family business when his father died in 1960. He was however keenly interested in pharmaceutical antiques. He died recently and so ended an association of some 135 years between pharmacy and the Raggs of Edmonton Green.

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(2455-546)

From the Manchester area

By GEOFFREY JAFFE

The following details have been taken from the sources indicated. Those familiar with Manchester will recognise many of the street names – they are still in existence: –

1. The Manchester Directory, 1773 by Elizabeth Raffeld

Barlow James	Mercer	8 Smithy Door
Bew George	Apothecary	Long Millgate
Boutbee John	Chemist & Druggist	16 Market St Lane
Bradbury Thos.	Surgeon	11 Cannon St.
Mrs Brescie	Midwife	5 Deansgate
Burchall James MD	Surgeon and Man Midwife	Market St Lane
Cook John	Chemist & Druggist and Seedsman	12 Market Place
Croysor Robert	Apothecary Surgeon and Man Midwife	Deansgate
Deacon Edward Erastus	Surgeon and Man Midwife	St Marys Gate
Drinkwater John	Surgeon and Man Midwife	Front Salford
Hall Richard	Surgeon	Deansgate
Henry Thomas	Apothecary	19 St Annes Sq.
Leigh John	Druggist	7 Cateaton St.
Mainwaring Peter MD	JP for M/CR Division Rochdale + Bolton	12 King St.
Miller Richard	Druggist	Hyd's Crofs
Oldham Joshua	Surgeon and Man Midwife	Cannon St.
Pickering Wm.	Surgeon and Man Midwife	31 Shudehill
Benjamin Rawson & Co.	Vitriol Manufacturers	Water St.
Richardson Thos.	Surgeons Instruments and Truss Maker	7 St Marys Gate
Richardson Wm.	Surgeons Instrument Maker	33 Hanging Ditch
Starkie Wm.	Surgeon and Man Midwife	50 King St.
Thyer Thos.	Apothecary	47 Deansgate
Wagstaff William	Apothecary	Queens St/St Anns
Walker Thos.	Apothecary	5 Market Place
Walton John	Apothecary	Front Salford
White Charles	Surgeon and Man Midwife	Market St Lane
White Thos.	Doctor	54 King St.

2. Officers of the Infirmary and Lunatic Hospital Manchester 1773

Physicians
Dr Mainwaring, Dr Kay and Dr Brown

Surgeons
Mr James Burchall MD, Mr Charles White and Mr Edward Hall

Apothecary
Mr Robert Darby

Visiting Apothecaries
Mr Wagstaff and Mr Henry

The Lunatic Hospital was opened on May 26 1766 and up to 24 June 1772 had admitted 193 patients of them 97 were discharged as "cured", 50 discharged as "relieved", 9 discharged as "incurable". One patient had "runaway" and ten had died. Twentysix "remained in the house".

Whatever happened to .....?

By C.G. SEARLE

One of the most interesting (and sometimes infuriating!) aspects of historical studies is the tracing of "lost" persons from a particular study. This occurs, for example, in genealogical studies, where a family member, or a whole branch, dis disappears without trace from a locality, opening up whole fields of interest for the researcher – where and why did they go, and how did they fare?

This aspect is particularly noticeable in studies of local pharmacists (especially Chemists and Druggists), and occurs frequently when one investigates the published Census records– 1841, 1851, 1861 and 1871. The recent series of 1871 Census records published in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* has raised some interest about the head-of-household, but amongst his charges (children, servants and assistants etc.) can often be found the apprentice pharmacist. The fortunes of the latter may be of interest.

A study of the Census records for Chichester, Sussex, provides a list of apprentices who subsequently "disappeared" from the city; any information from other researchers who have discovered their later places of business (if they ever "qualified") would be appreciated.

1841 Census		
Henry Gooden	born 1821	in Chichester?
William Wright	1826	elsewhere
Philemon Clayton	1826	Chichester?
Samuel Pittis	1826	elsewhere
James Robertson	1826	elsewhere
1851 Census		
William Malden	1833	Chichester
George Ayling	1833	Chichester
George Payne	1834	East Grinstead
Edward Older	1832	East Lavant, Sussex
Walter Dendy	1832	Chichester
1861 Census		
Robert Orchard	1841	Chichester
Thomas Biffin	1847	Chichester
1871 Census		
William Leviston	1853	Gloucester
Edward H. Robinson	1856	Ipswich

None of these men became practising pharmacists in the city, nor appear in any other capacity. A William Carpenter, retired Chemist and Druggist in the 1851 and 1861 Census returns, was a local man, but had not practised in the city, nor had Benjamin Binstead, another local man, who had retired by the 1871 Census. There are a number of "assistants" and "managers" of doubtful status.

It is hoped that lists for other towns and cities will be forthcoming, and will fill the many gaps in our knowledge of pharmacists at this important stage of development and evolution of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

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Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S.,D.B.A. 17 Bloomsbury Square·London·WC1A 2NN

Dr. J.K. Crellin
Dr. Crellin is to take up an academic post in the United States and at the last Committee meeting the Secretary presented him with a gift and a cheque on behalf of Committee members. Dr. Crellin has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Society and an indefatigable member in Committee and as office holder. Although he will not be available for the "day to day" activities of the Society he will undoubtedly be its ardent "US correspondent ." He takes with him the best wishes of all the members of the Society.

Annual general meeting
Presenting the annual report at the annual general meeting 1975, Miss Hutton expressed pleasure at the decision to grant honorary membership to Mrs. A. Lothian Short for her contribution to the history of pharmacy, and said that she had played an important part in the formation of the History of Pharmacy Committee in 1952 and was a founder member of the Society. Miss Hutton concluded by thanking the Pharmaceutical Society for their invaluable secretarial assistance and for Mrs. Cameron's willing help.

Committee
Four nominations were received for the election to fill four vacancies on the Committee and the following were elected.

Mr. J.C. Bloomfield
Miss D.A. Hutton
Mr. A.G.M. Madge
Dr. T.D. Whittet

The Committee nominated a fifth to fill the vacancy occurring with the death of Mr. McGuckin and Mr. D.A. Hodgson was elected. Mr. D.C. Harrod and Mr. G.R.A. Short were re-elected as auditors for the coming year.

Office-bearers
In accordance with the constitution and rules of the Society the Committee appointed the following office-bearers for the year 1976–1977:–

President:	Mrs. J. Burnby
Vice-president and Secretary:	Miss D.A. Hutton
Joint membership Secretaries:	Mr. D.A. Hodgson & Dr. W.E. Court
Treasurer:	Mr J.C. Bloomfield

Obituary
Members of the Society will regret the recent death of Mr Lawrence Pegg on April 28. Mr. Pegg and Mrs. Pegg have been consistent supporters of the Society and regularly attended its functions. Mr. Pegg was present at the Chester Conference in spite of his apparent ill health.

British Pharmaceutical Conference
The History Session of the British Pharmaceutical Conference will be held at St. Andrews during the afternoon of September 14, Dr. A.H.B. Masson, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, will present a paper on the "Early days of Intravenous Saline".

A Northampton catalogue
Mrs. A. Lothian Short draws attention to a collection of post-medieval pottery in Northampton Museum, including a number of drug jars. The collection is described in a booklet which includes illustrations and cross section drawings of some items. The booklet (price 45p) is available from Leisure and Recreation Department, Northampton Borough Council, Guildhall Road, Northampton.

American bi-centennial celebration
The Society is having a pestle and mortar, specially cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry for presentation to the American Institute of Pharmacy, to mark the American Bi-Centennial Celebration. The gift is to be presented by the President to Professor Cowan, when he delivers a lecture to the Royal Society of Health in London on July 12.

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Chemistry and Pharmacology in Britain 1840-1916

By J. Parascandola

The attempt to relate pharmacological activity to chemical structure and properties had its first significant beginnings in Britain. James Blake (1815-1893), an English physician who later emigrated to America, was probably the first man to make a serious beginning in the study of structure – activity relationship, for in 1841, he announced his discovery that elements which were isomorphic (i.e., had the same crystalline form) generally had similar pharmacological properties. By 1848, he had studied the physiological effects of the compounds of more than 25 elements and arranged them in groups on the basis of these effects. Some of his groupings were very similar to those used and expanded by Mendeleef almost two decades later in constructing his periodic table. Blake was not, however, aware of any periodic relationship of the elements, but was impressed by the fact that the elements within each group tended to be isomorphic. Blake's work demonstrated that a relationship could be established between the pharmacological action and the chemical nature of a substance.

Blake's studies had been limited to inorganic compounds because he felt that the composition and properties of organic compounds were only imperfectly understood. By the 1860's, structural organic chemistry was beginning to emerge, and some attempts were made to relate the physiological action of organic compounds to their chemical structure. Perhaps the earliest systematic study of this kind was that of Benjamin Ward Richardson (1828 - 1896), another British physician, in the period 1864 - 1870.

Richardson compared the effects of different functional groups on the pharmacological action of various hydrocarbon derivatives. He was able to associate certain functional groups with particular physiological properties (e.g., the nitrite group tended to be associated with vasodilation and quickening of the heart, the hydroxyl group with depression of the active functions of the cerebrospinal system, etc.)

Activity relationships

The study that really opened up the field of structure – activity relationships, however, was the investigation by Alexander Crum Brown (1832 - 1922) and Thomas Fraser (1841 - 1920) of Edinburgh University. In 1869, Brown and Fraser showed that the methylated derivatives of certain alkaloids and tertiary amines (what we would now call quaternary ammonium salts) all seemed to possess curare – like action. They established a clear cut relationship between a particular type of chemical structure and a specific pharmacological action, and their results encouraged other investigators to undertake research in this area.

Some were prompted to hold out high hopes for therapeutics on the basis of such studies. Thomas Lauder Brunton (1844 - 1916), for example, hoped that the time might not be far off when scientists would be able to synthesize substances that would act on the body in any desired way. By the end of the 19th. century, this optimism had begun to waver, as it was found that determining the relationship between structure and activity was more difficult than had been originally anticipated. No general laws had emerged, but many investigators still continued to pursue such researches. Not all drug researchers, however, were enthusiastic about the structural approach. A controversy developed over whether physical or chemical properties played more of a part in drug action, and those who favoured the view that drugs generally act by modifying physicochemical conditions (e.g., surface tension, osmotic pressure, etc.) in the cell, (rather than by chemically combining with a protoplasmic constituent,) tended to be critical of the structural approach. To those who supported the physical view, the structure of the drug was important only insofar as it determined physical properties, which they felt were of more immediate interest to the pharmacologist. Eventually, as a clearer understanding of molecular interactions developed, the borderline between "chemical" and "physical" became blurred, and a view of drug action which essentially absorbed both positions was developed, so that the controversy was no longer meaningful.

Abstract from the paper given at a meeting of the Society on Tuesday December 9, 1975.

Unique exhibition

St. John's Hospital, Bruges is one of the oldest hospitals in Europe which is still in use, it is about to be replaced by a new hospital. An exhibition has been organised to demonstrate "to an international public", how, over eight centuries (from the first Statutes in 1188), patients have been afforded both spiritual and physical care. In a hospital ward there is a panorama of nursing and medical equipment as used throughout the ages. Visitors may see "untold treasures" including the "Apothecary-shop a real jewel, with its pestles and mortars, and old china" and the Gothic chapel and sacristy.

Many works of art are to be shown in a medieval setting, including six major works of Memling – the world's greatest collection of works of this Flemish primitive. The exhibition is open daily from 9.00–12.00 and from 2.00–6.00 until August 31. Further information may be obtained from: Commission of National Assistance, Karthuizerinnenstraat 4,800 Bruges, Belgium.

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in 1732 nearly a quarter of all the houses in London were shops or taverns selling some kind of food or drink, whilst Mrs Davis, in her "History of shopping", states it was clear that around that time there were many thousands of shops of one sort or another – many of them merely a ground floor of a house with a few goods in it, looked after by the housewife.

A large proportion of selling to the public was of course done over stalls, in sheds or leantos which sometimes were the only living quarters of the tenants. However, in the 1850's plate glass began to be used more to replace small panes of ordinary glass and the bow windows. Adequate street lighting even in thoroughfares was a rarity until the 19th century; gas lighting was introduced in London about 1807 and by the Edwardian period was in general use as an illuminant. Before the century ended, electricity was supplanting gas. Windows, glass and gas together helped change the shopping environment.

Pharmacies and other shops opened from 8 am to 9, 10 or 11 pm, and in some cases were open on Sundays. However, not only were there developments in the structure of shops but there were also new types of organisations to run them, and the first co-operative shop opened in Rochdale in 1844, and was followed by the Wholesale Society to supply co-operatives unable to buy in bulk due to lack of capital or expertise. The co-operatives were probably the first to run successfully branch shops, and thus could be said to be among the first multiples.

Mr Wright showed a number of slides, most of which had been prepared from the "Pharmacies in Britain" series in *Chemist & Druggist.* They were drawings by either John Baker or Geoffrey Fletcher done around 1954–59 of pharmacies that were in existence in the Edwardian period when shopping began to move from the single owner to the complex it is today.

Sir Hugh Linstead reviewed the background to the Poison and Pharmacy Act 1908, which laid down statutory conditions under which corporate bodies could practise pharmacy. In 1909 Edward Harrison wrote, and the *British Medical Journal* published, "Secret remedies, what they cost and what they contain".

During 1910, the last year of the King's reign, Parliament was occupied with the Bill that became the National Health Insurance Act, 1911. The publication of "Secret remedies" in 1909, and "More secret remedies" in 1911, led directly to the appointment in 1912 of a Select Committee and indirectly to the fulfilment of its recommendations half a century later in the Medicines Act 1968. The third event, the passing of the National Health Insurance Act 1911, was of course the first step towards the NHS Act 1946.

The Poisons and Pharmacy Act of 1908 represented all that it was politically possible for pharmacists to achieve in the circumstances of the time. Nevertheless, it left the profession statutorily anchored to the sale of poisons and with no recognition of its role as the guardian of the public in the compounding, dispensing and supply of medicines. This was partially achieved by way of the National Health Insurance Act 1911, and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act 1933 at least got the practice of pharmacy adrift from the sale of poisons. The National Health Service Act 1948 and later the Medicines Act 1968 have taken the process about as far as current political thinking seemed ready to go.

Looking at the current situation, Sir Hugh believed that "the pattern of distributive pharmacy, as between the big commercial pharmacy and the small neighbourhood pharmacy", is settling down and that large scale changes are unlikely to occur in that framework over the next ten years of so". Both groups must however expect a steady development of publicly controlled – "I use the vague phrase deliberately" – pharmacy developing along with the development of the health centre. "The direction of such development is clear; its speed and extent will depend largely upon the financial resources at the disposal of local authorities and health authorities. Much of this development will also depend on political rather than social economic or professional considerations."

The street traders

The demolitions in Covent Garden called forth a recording expedition before all was lost. The South-west corner of the central buildings housed the business of Mr Butler, herbalist and seedman, and seller of lavender water. Henry Mayhew in his book "London Labour and the London Poor" 1861, tells us something of Butler's trade in 1851. There was at that time a brisk trade in wild birds and also in their nests, the suppliers usually being gipsies. One boy that Mayhew interviewed traded in live snakes, lizards and hedgehogs (for killing black beetles), hedge-sparrows' nests and eggs destined for glass cases, and linnets' eggs which would be hatched out under canaries, and bullrushes which were sold to bird-stuffers at a penny a dozen.

He used to take up to six dozen frogs to a French hotel in Leicester Square and had a regular order from a Frenchman who kept a cigar shop for three dozen a week. The boy told Mr Mayhew, "I get the eggs from Witham and Chelmsford, I know more about them parts than anywhere else, being used to go after moss for Mr Butler of the herb shop in Covent Garden".

Mr Butler was one of a long line of gardeners and herbalists who had sold their surplus produce in the old convent garden of St Peter's, Westminster. There had been stalls from probably as early as the 14th century although it was not until 1671 that the fourth Earl of Bedford was given a royal patent of licence for a market to be held "Within the Piazza at Covent Garden".

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pharmacy where Franklin had been apprenticed. The premises were demolished and a branch of Mothercare now stood on the site.

Mr H. Burlinson spoke on "Tableting in retrospect". He said the history of tableting, like the tablet itself, was compressed into a comparatively small space. It was not until 1843 that a patent was granted to a North Country chemist, William Brockedon, to shape graphite into cylinders for the manufacture of lead pencils, and in the following year the same principle was used to compress potassium bicarbonate into tablets. However, the preparation and use of moulded tablets or tablet triturates,should not be overlooked. The idea of filling moulds with medicated lactose was proposed by a Dr Fuller of New York in 1878 and they were introduced to the medical profession five years later. They were prepared extemporaneously by dissolving the medicament in 60 per cent alcohol, massing this with lactose. "As far as I know they have never been made by machine". said Mr Burlinson.

Mention of an early form of the modern solution tablet or compressed lamella was made in the journal *American Medicine* in 1900, where reference was made to "Stamps" found in England and used by the Romans to stamp remedies for producing clearness of vision. These preparations were hardened with gum or some viscid substance, and thus were ready to be liquified at any time. The aim of the medicament was specified on the stamp – "obviously we are not the only ones concerned with the identification of dose forms!"

In 1871 F. Newberry & Son purchased Brockedon's business and continued to manufacture and sell his "Compressed Potass & Soda" and the following year John Wyeth of Philadelphia developed a hand-operated press to make tablets of greater elegance. Burroughs Wellcome entered the field in 1878 and registered the word Tabloid for their products and four years later Thomas Kerfoot, a pharmacist with an inventive mind, produced his own press which was amongst the first to be power driven. Even so, output was limited until the concept of the rotary machine, first evolved by Wyeth, was developed at the beginning of the 20th century by Allen & Hanbury. This was the precursor of the modern high-speed press which could produce, to accepted tolerances, up to 10,000 tablets a minute. "We can take pride in the leading part played by British pharmaceutical engineering in developing these precision machines".

Sugar coating

In 1838 Garot, a French chemist, described a method for coating unpalatable substances with gelatin, and in 1866 Warner, a Philadelphia pharmacist, was among the first to "enrobe" his pills in sugar, a custom much used in Mediaeval times to enhance the appearance of confectionery. In France, in the 1930's, a number of patents for pill coating were registered; these probably stemmed from the dragees of the sweetmeat-maker who long had been skilled in the preparation of French almonds. The method of sugar coating has changed little.

It was in 1945 that the British Pharmacopoeia introduced a disintegration test for uncoated tablets, but not until the 1953 edition was a standard for sugar coated ones included and ten years later one for those with an enteric coat.

After dinner on Saturday night Miss J. Dobson spoke on "Haygarth of Chester". John Haygarth spent 30 years of his professional life at Chester both as a member of the infirmary staff and in private practice. Soon after taking up residence he published in 1772 a statistical survey of the deaths that had occurred in a local area. Chester suffered from periodic epidemics of typhus and smallpox. To control the latter he issued a series of rules that were to be part of an overall plan for the whole country so that smallpox cases should be immediately notified and dealt with. The strategy was that a person who notified a case of smallpox was to be given one shilling. The patient was to be taken to the infirmary in a sedan chair of a particular colour. Relatives had to clean the house thoroughly and were instructed not to mix with the public.

Haygarth suggested and organised a team of apothecaries and surgeons to inspect and visit the houses to ensure the rules were carried out. At the infirmary he had separate wards allocated to these cases and the incidence of the disease practically disappeared in Chester. Haygarth is also credited with being the first to recommend the use of quinine – as Peruvian bark – for the treatment of rheumatism.

He was also a great reformer, issuing pamphlets encouraging the improvident poor to save. He died aged 84.

The Sunday morning session was allocated to three papers. Dr W.V. Farrar dealt with "Henry's Magnesia 1772–1933" and discussed the various descendants and relatives of William Henry (1700–1774) concerned with the production and sale of the preparation.

Dr W.J. Reader discussed "War in the Chemical Industry: Brunners, Crosfields and Levers, 1911–1925", a story of a bitter quarrel between Lever Brother Ltd and Brunner Mond, whose respective chairmen, W.H. Lever (1851–1925) and Sir John Brunner (1842–1919), developed a hate and distrust of each other that resulted in many lawsuits.

The final paper "The Development and Approach in Pharmaceutical Industrial Technology 1900–1930", was presented by Mr S.W. Kipling. He traced the changes brought about by the developments in the various disciplines, synthetic chemistry, bacteriology, pharmacology and diagnosis.

The Edwardian Era

Two papers on Edwardian pharmacy were presented at the evening meeting 17 Bloomsbury Square on February 17. Sir Hugh Linstead dealt with "Pharmaceutical Legislation" and Mr. A. Wright discussed "Pharmacy: its Fabric and Background".

Mr. Wright said many had seen Edward VII.s reign as a mixture of operetta and French farce. It was a period of extremes, the rich and the very poor, and a time in which millions were still engaged in sweated labour living in slums. The West End of London and its East End were poles apart, linked by trade or commerce. In that link there were the middle classes which J.B. Priestley had discerned were at war with themselves, It was the class that produced the ideas and condemned them. It was the class that had many subdivisions within it, with a wide range of income and styles, covering those with large houses with six or seven servants to much smaller edifices.

During the 19th century London had expanded fantastically, and that expansion accelerated in the Edwardian period. Improvements in transport affected local fairs which had been the local centres of commerce, farmers and manufacturers had greater opportunities to sell to wider markets. Although the suburban market was not specifically rich, its members earning only a little more than the manual workers, the market was a wide one.

Maitland's "History and survey of London" indicated that

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Early industrial pharmacy

The Society's conference at Chester, March 26–28, dealing with early industrial pharmacy was attended by 32 persons of whom 27 were members of BSHP.

The programme began with a reception at the Guildhall during which Mr G.H. Parry, past president Freeman and Guilds of Chester, gave a short history of the Company, beginning with the granting of the freedom of Chester in 1128. He described some of the 23 Guilds formed in Chester. They were responsible for many of the duties now carried out by the present-day local authorities – street cleaning, curfew, drainage, looking after the city gates and walls.

He referred to the Chester Guilds museum and the 1372 charter granted to the Cordwainers signed by the Black Prince, bearing his seal with its reverse side bearing his thumbprint.

Among the exhibits on view were some of the old hoods worn by the Guild officials and a 17th century record of the apprentices.

Apothecaries' tokens

Dr T.D. Whittet presented a paper "Chester apothecaries and their tokens". Chester was one of the few provincial cities or UK towns in which existed the guild to which apothecaries belonged. Craftsmen and tradesmen were compelled to belong to a guild before they were allowed to practise their trade or occupation. The grants of Guild (Gild) Merchants of numerous towns or cities often included clauses prohibiting the sale of merchandise and the exercising of any craft or mystery, except by their members.

Except in London the apothecaries were never numerous enough to form separate guilds so they joined with other members to form joint guilds.

It was not until 1721 that the word apothecary appeared in the title of the Chester Guild. John Tristram, apothecary, was steward at the time and the heading of a meeting read: "The names of the Brethren of the Worshipful Company of Mercers, Ironmongers and Apothecaries within the City of Chester".

In the 17th century, a shortage of legal tender caused tradesmen to issue "an illegal money of necessity". These trade tokens formed the small change of the period. They usually bore the name and the town of the issuer and the date. Very often they included either the occupation of the issuer and sometimes the coat of arms of the London Company of that occupation or some other symbol.

Two Chester apothecaries issued tokens. Nathaniel Bassnet issued one in 1668. On the reverse side was "apothecary in Chester" and the symbol of a mortar and pestle. At least six persons were apprenticed to Bassnet between 1667 and 1691. His will was proved in 1699.

Thomas Heath issued a token in 1667. A Thomas Heath, probably his father, was Sheriff of Chester in 1650. The will of the issuer of the token was proved in November 1690.

John Griffith issued an undated pewter token which had an arms bearing three antelope's heads.

Dr Whittet said the only other apothecary in the county he had discovered was a Thomas Bromhall of Nantwich.

Chester, said Dr Whittet, had the richest source of information about the apothecaries and their guild of any provincial city; he hoped that local pharmacists would, with the permission of the Guild's officers, study them and publish more detailed accounts of the part played by the apothecaries in the affairs of the Guild and the city.

The Saturday morning session opened with a paper "Early manufacturers of medicines in Britain" by J.K. Crellin, president of the Society.

He said that a lot of work needed to be done concerning the history of the industry. By 1650 there appeared to have been a well recognised group dealing in chemical remedies, but it was not clear how many individuals there were nor who they were.

The real commercial growth did not occur until the 18th century. In that period there was the explosion of the voluntary hospitals and their demand for supplies. This gave rise to competition and sometimes criticisms concerning the standards of the preparations supplied.

Some lists of suppliers contain names of whom nothing was known. It was evident that proprietary medicines were important in ensuring the commercial viability of chemists and druggists. There was evidence that a number of individuals and companies contributed largely to ensuring the maintenance of quality standards. Many pharmaceutical companies developed rapidly in the 19th century due to the increasing demand for alkaloidal preparations.

Edwin Franklin

In his paper, "A burning and shining light: Mr X and the Cheapside Chemists of Lancaster", Dr C A Russell dealt with the criticism of Edwin Franklin, a pioneer in chemistry and education, of his apprentice master, Stephen Ross, chemist and druggist, Cheapside, Lancaster.

Franklin's criticisms were embodied in a book that was withdrawn and republished in a "watered down" edition. Dr Russell believed that only two copies of the first version were available.

The apprenticeship lasted six years and the account provided a valuable insight to 19th century conditions.

Franklin assessed his pharmaceutical experience as six wasted years, but Dr Russell believed that needed reconsideration, on the grounds that the experience was not exceptional and that Franklin was not entirely consistent in his record. It did not reflect the integrity of Ross which could be confirmed from other sources.

Franklin also failed to appreciate the material advantages he did enjoy – no Sunday opening was a rare privilege – he also did not realise the effect on him of his experience in a pharmacy. Furthermore Franklin's criticism of Ross ignored the fact that no less than three of Ross's apprentices became major international figures in science.

Dr Russell, looking for an explanation for Franklin's assessment, suggested possibly it might have resulted from a religious basis. Franklin was, in later life, hostile to all kinds of organised religion and Ross was a very religious individual. Both Ross and Franklin were essentially shy men and therefore there could have been an "inarticulate barrier" between them.

During the discussion Mr Harrison, Lancaster, disclosed that he had dispensed the last prescription offered in the

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Russian pharmacy

Sir, I wish to take up the suggestion by Mr. Fayle that official Russian pharmacy began withJames Frencham.

In 1920 Paul Spehr published an article proving that the Englishman Frencham was not the first court pharmacist in Russia, but that honour should be given to the Dutchman Arend Claesen van Stellingwerfft. Another author Lichinger also referred to Frencham as the first pharmacist in Russia, but Van Esso in 1938 used Spehr's article, and referred to Arend Claesen as the first court pharmacist. Spehr undoubtedly obtained his facts from Von Richter's book, "Geschichte der Medizin in Russland" that was printed in Moscow in 1815. There exists a German edition of that publication providing sufficient material in the German and Dutch languages to render unnecessary the need to have everything translated from the Russian. From these editions we learn that long before Frencham "a whole row" of pharmacists had been called to Moscow or had been recruited by agents of the Czar in Europe. Among them was a pharmacist Mathias (circa 1550) and the Englishman Thomas Carver (1567) and Onuphrius Pelagg (circa 1558), undoubtedly the first court pharmacist was Arend Claesen van Stellingwerfft a Dutchman who in 1606 had served 40 years as a pharmacist to the Czar, he probably went to Russia in 1557 and I therefore believe that the first court pharmacy was operating around that time, and Claesen the first pharmacist.

Von Richter provides a lot of information on Claesen and his family in a recent Russian dissertation on the history of pharmacy of Moscow by Martha Korolewa. Frencham again is maintained as the first court pharmacist apparently the publications of Spehr and von Richter seemed to be unknown to her. Other English pharmacists who went to Russia, Randolf Warley, doctor and pharmacist (1631), Romanus Thius (July 1655), who was then coming to the end of his career, Johann Thius (1673) and Robert Benschom (1676).

D.A. Wittop Koning

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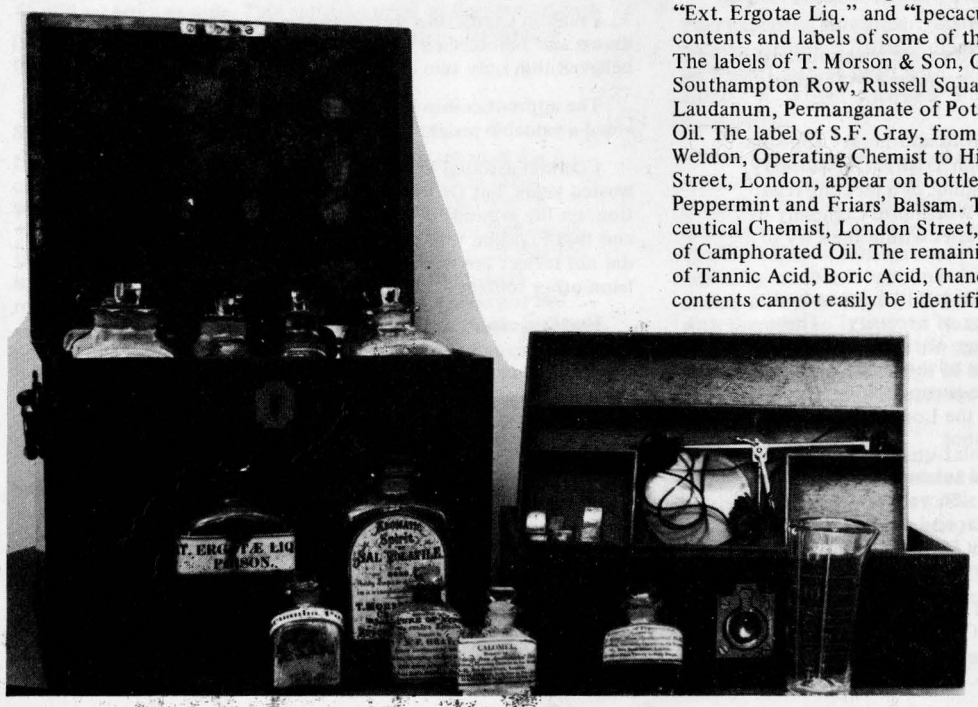
The Editor's attention has been drawn to an article by P.H. Marsden "The Practice of Pharmacy in Russia" The **Pharmaceutical Journal** 1898, **60**, June 4 1898 in which the author adheres to the view that it was Frencham who opened the first pharmacy in Russia.

A medicine chest

Making a plea for some items in The Historian of interest to the "lesser academics" Mr Robb of Newark sends details of a medicine chest in his possession. He states" The chest is made of mahogany with brass handles and fittings and measures 10 x 8 x 8ins. The plush-lined lid opens to reveal 13 compartments, each containing a glass stoppered bottle one missing.



The removal of a brass rod adjacent to the lock allows a drawer to be pulled out which has a fitted tray containing a hand balance and brass apothecary weights. The drawer itself is divided into seven compartments – five contain glass stoppered bottles all of the same size, one compartment is plush-lined and contains a 1½ fluid ounce glass measure graduated in fluid drachms and the remaining compartment measuring 7 x 5½ins. is empty.

Only two of the original labels remain on the bottles – "Ext. Ergotae Liq." and "Ipecacuanha Powder". However, the contents and labels of some of the other bottles are of interest, The labels of T. Morson & Son, Operative Chemists, 124 Southampton Row, Russell Square, appear on bottles of Laudanum, Permanganate of Potash, Sal Volatile and Carbolic Oil. The label of S.F. Gray, from Apothecaries Hall, late Weldon, Operating Chemist to His Majesty, 97 New Bond Street, London, appear on bottles of Calomel, Essence of Peppermint and Friars' Balsam. The label of Corder, Pharmaceutical Chemist, London Street, Norwich, appears on a bottle of Camphorated Oil. The remaining bottles contain Glycerine of Tannic Acid, Boric Acid, (hand written labels) or the contents cannot easily be identified.

I imagine the medicine chest dates from the period 1890–1910 and as I acquired it in Norfolk, it was probably in use in that area. However, any informa- about its date and use would be appreciated".

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Contributions to the Editor: Arthur Wright F.P.S.,D.B.A. 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN

Bicentennial gift to American pharmaceutical historians

To mark the bicentenary of the United States of America, the British Society for the History of Pharmacy presented a mortar and pestle to the American Institute for the History of Pharmacy. The gift was handed to Professor Cowan, A.I.H.P. council chairman, by Mrs. N. Burnby, President of the B.S. H.P., at a meeting held in the Society of Apothecaries' Hall, Blackfriars, on July 2. The bell-metal mortar, bearing the dates 1776–1976, was specially cast for the occasion at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London, where mortars for apothecaries such as Gideon de Laune, Apothecary to James 1st., and John Battersby, Samuel Pepys' apothecary, have been cast for nearly 400 years.

After the presentation, Professor Cowan gave the Gideon de Laune Lecture to members of the Faculty of the History and Philosophy of Medicine and Pharmacy. Entitled "Medicine in the American Revolution", Professor Cowan's paper dealt with the difficulties of the new American government in providing effective health care for their revolutionary army, in in the face of inefficiency, corruption and treason. (The Editor regrets that the wrong venue was announced in the last *Pharmaceutical Historian* and apologises to those who were misled).

Picture shows the president handing the mortar to Professor Cowan whilst Dr T.D. Whittet looks on approvingly

Photograph courtesy of Pharmaceutical Journal

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A 17th Century poisoning case

By Mary H. Lakie, George Cook and David MacMurray

About two years ago at a meeting of the Scottish History of Pharmacy Committee, its chairman Mr C.G. Drummond produced three old but well preserved accounts which had been discovered by a firm of lawyers in Edinburgh when they tackled a long awaited cleaning of their attic. As luck would have it that firm deals with the business of the Pharmaceutical General Council and so the value of the accounts was recognised. One account has shown no relationship to the other two which are the subjects of this paper.

The first, an "Account due by David Pringle to James Hamilton" and is for goods supplied during the period January to November 1694. It is in very good condition after almost 300 years and legible.

It lists a considerable number of preparations familiar until fairly recent times including *Decoct Centaur Min* – Decoction of Lesser Centaury or Feverwort, much esteemed as stomach bitters and extensively used in the treatment of dyspepsia. *Saccul Aperitive* is, possibly one of the earliest "tea bags". In a pharmacopoeia of the day one is referred from "sacculus" to "cerevisia" and there are the instructions for Cerevisia Embryonium – a drink to strengthen the child in the womb and prevent abortion. A mixture of ingredients such as ivory, oak moss, tormentil roots, nutmegs, coriander seeds and raisins was put in a bag which was then suspended in 6 gallons of new ale – for a time unspecified. The instruction was "Let it be drunk as an ordinary drink". [All six gallons of it?] And with supreme confidence it goes on "This alone medicament does in this case more than any other yet known in the world".

Other items were:– yellow basilicon, julaps, ptsian, manna and ol. lubricorum (oil of earthworms). The final interesting item is:– "a glass pestill broken, 6 shillings!"

It seemed appropriate to try to discover something about James Hamilton and David Pringle. Working on the assumption that James Hamilton was an apothecary and taking a shot in the dark on his having lived and worked in Edinburgh, the starting point was the Edinburgh Library, George IV Bridge, where published records showed that in fact there was a James Hamilton, surgeon apothecary in business at that time. He was the son of William Hamilton, minister at Whytekirk in East Lothian and he was made a Burgess of Edinburgh in 1694. On November 12, 1697 he married Helen Cleghorn, daughter of a goldsmith in Edinburgh and in January 1710 he died leaving her with six children.

Hamilton was buried in Greyfriars churchyard, in the burial records of which it says "James Hamilton, surgeon apothecary, Burgess of Edinburgh, in the 39th year of his life died of a fever the 4th and was buried the 6th January 1710, 4 paces South-West of the well on Bairnsknowe."

In Register House there is a copy of his last Will and Testament which had been written only two days before his death and began "Being sick of body but perfect of judgment and memory and knowing that there is nothing more certain than death and nothing more uncertain than the time thereof do make my last Will and Testament in manner following" and went on to leave his "Haill goods, gear and debts" to his wife and children.

There was no proof that this was the same James Hamilton who rendered the account but he had been in a likely place at the right time and much now depended on what could be discovered about David Pringle.

The second account was one rendered by Reuben McRabie in 1965 headed "Account of the Funeral Charges and Mummings of the deceased David Pringle, surgeon apothecary, Burgess of Edinburgh, paid by Reuben McRabie, merchant in Edinburgh".

So – who was David Pringle? If we were right with James Hamilton why was one surgeon apothecary buying medicines from another. According to the records there was an appropriate David Pringle (most commonly referred to only as surgeon) in Edinburgh at the right time. We discovered that two testaments were recorded in his name, one in 1688 and the other in 1695. The records also show that in April 1677 the same David Pringle married Marion Maxwell. Copies of both testaments were found but they were extremely difficult to read and it was only with the generous assistance of the staff in the Manuscript Room of the National Library of Scotland that it was possible to decipher any of the writing. So far as can be discovered that first will, proved in 1688, left everything to his wife Marion Maxwell under some undecipherable conditions which were to be "in noways prejudicial to the defuncts children or nearest of kin". The executors of that will were John Maxwell, brother of the beneficiary and Daniel Nicolson, writer in Edinburgh, "attester and arbiter". The second will dated 1695 was made in favour of Reuben McRabie and seemed to have been the winding up of the estate. It contained no mention of Marion Maxwell, nor of Daniel Nicolson.

At this stage we were in a considerable quandary for it was almost certain that David Pringle had died in late 1687 or early 1688. Why then was it 1695 until his funeral account was rendered by Reuben McRabie? Who was the David Pringle who had bought these drugs and medicines from James Hamilton in 1694 – six years after the death of "our" David Pringle? The recovery of these documents, together, after all these years, seems indicative of a relationship between them.

It seemed that we could discover little more – but just then we received a further document from the same source. The document was described as a Backbond by James Anderson, WS to the Lords of the Treasury on the Gift of Escheat of the estates of Mrs Marion Pringle and others, condemned to death on charges of adultery, poisoning, etc., and was dated 1694/1702. So there, in the year 1695 as we then thought, we had the body of a man whose wife had been condemned to death for adultery, and poisoning. Had she poisoned him or had he died of natural causes? He appeared to have had two Wills. Might he have discovered what she was up to and disinherited her? Another point of some significance was that one of the others charged and condemned with her was Daniel Nicolson, writer.

Now we had to discover some record of the trial. No-one would have given much for our chances at this stage but in

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"That liqorish stuff"

By J. Burnby

On November 3 1863 a bill was sent to my great grandmother, "Mrs Jane Thomas, chemist, Bala, North Wales" by Messrs Woodall and Jones of Liverpool. The goods bought (which had been sent by rail as far as Llangollen) included sugar, syrup, ground rice and currants. No pharmacist on general practice today would expect to stock these groceries but such lowly commodities should not be entirely despised as many have an intriguing history.

Currants figured largely in the trade of the apothecaries of the 17th and 18th centuries. Men such as the Botts of Coventry who had not only a busy shop but a flourishing medical practice did not find their sale beneath them. This small blue-black fruit was once a subject of heated debate between diplomats and a cause for concern to wealthy merchants, chancellors and treasurers alike.

The Levant Company trading to Turkey and its possessions was formed in 1581 with the support of Elizabeth and her ministers Burghley and Walsingham. In those days the Turks ruled over Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Algiers and Tunis as well as Greece and the Aegean islands, though the pashas of Egypt and the Barbary states often openly defied the Sultan. The Company was said to make profits of up to 300 per cent. On the other hand loss by piracy was a regular charge on the merchants as was the constant present-giving to viziers and custom officers, an indispensable lubricant to all business in the Orient. In 1592 the old company trading with Venice was amalgamated with the new one under the title of "The Governor and Company of Merchants of the Levant".

The Company prospered despite its protestations and very real difficulties. The most lucrative source was the import of currants from Venice and her dependencies Zante and Cephalonia, two of the Ionian Islands, Two thousand three hundred tons of currants of these "trash berries" as Sir Thomas Roe, ambassador to Constantinople called them were imported in 1622. In spite of the lead, tin and many yards of cloth exported vast sums of English money had to be poured into these islands, so that a serious adverse balance of payments developed, a situation of which we are only too depressingly aware today. In vain Roe inveighed against his countrymen, "who forsooth can hardly digest bread, pastries, broth and bag-puddings without these currants". The English always notorious for their sweet-tooth took no notice of the economists' laments.

So certain were the Venetians that the English would never give up their passion for this "liqorish stuff" they increased the duties payable by all foreign merchants time and time again, Eventually the Levant merchants paid more in taxes than they did for the currants, and the English were even compelled by the Venetians in the islands to take large amounts of spoiled fruit at exorbitant rates. Roe raged, "they think (us) so enamoured with plum porridge cakes and pies as we will with currants swallow anything". The demand was so great that the factors on the islands vied with each other and so raised the price even further. As might be expected a large contraband trade arose as well.

Currants were also imported from Patras on the Greek mainland which was then under Turkish jurisdiction and so free of inflated Venetian taxes. Unfortunately the Greek berries were not so good even though skilled workers were lured from Zante to raise the standards. There was talk of shipping a cargo of vines from Greece to Virginia and starting currant production there. In 1639 Thomas Simens was made general factor by the English merchants at Zante and he bought five million currants. He was well liked by the islanders as he paid cash, and not one quarter or one third in money and the rest in goods as had the Jews and Greeks when they had had the monopoly as factors.

The Levant Company seemed to lose interest in the currant trade after the Venetians' eastern war of 1683–99 when they conquered the Morea, that is the part of Greece in which Patras lay, but the English did not have to forgo their favourite sweetmeat. It was now imported by independent English merchants who bought currants from Italy to the tune of £51,000 in 1697–8, and the fruit continued to be one of the chief products of the Morea. By the end of the 18th century eight million pounds of currants were exported annually via Patras of which the English took five eighths. Most of the business had passed to the Morea and it was not uncommon for the Zante crop to be left unwanted whilst the Greek growers had sold out; sometimes large quantities of the island berries were thrown away or fed to the animals. But the Greek revolt of the 1820's once more changed the swing of the pendulum. Trade from Patras almost ceased but the currants still flowed into this country. Not unexpectedly the Ionian Islands came into their own again and they exported in 1824 £122,000 worth of currants to England.

A pharmacy moves from Leeds to Hull

Hull Museum has recently acquired an old Leeds pharmacy, and is now reconstructing it as completely as possible in their High Street Museum. The pharmacy belonged to the late Mr Walter Thomas Castelow, who, when he died in 1974, aged 98, was the country's oldest practising pharmacist.

The pharmacy was opened in 1841 by Edward Brown, at 159 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. Mr Castelow, who qualified in 1897, took over in 1907. Since then, the pharmacy seems to have altered little. The mahoganey drug run holds early 19th century glass rounds; the drawers beneath are labelled with their original contents and prices, recalling the days when Turkish opium was sold at 6d a drachm, and Persian opium for only 4d a drachm. Some drawers are still full crammed with "Rad. Ipecac." "Gran. Paradisi.", and other crude drugs. There are elaborate cut glass perfume bottles; carefully protected for display on the counter by an ingenious home-made antitheft device. There are the establishment's nostrums, ranging from "Ince's Pulmonic Cordial. First made up for the late Rev Wm Ince by Edward Brown, 1841", to "Leg Make Up. Saves the cost of stockings", offered for sale at 12½p for a 50ml bottle.

The reference books for the dispensary, date mostly

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Aether rounds

By W.A. Jackson

Over the past few years, I have been trying to assemble a representative collection of shop rounds, and have been surprised by the relative scarcity of those designed to hold volatile substances, usually designated "Aether rounds" in the wholesalers' sundries catalogues.

Basically, they were ordinary stoppered bottles with the addition of a heavy ground glass cap or dome which fitted over the neck and stopper. In hot weather, if the stopper was lifted out of the bottle by volatilisation of the contents, it hit the cap and dropped back into place, preventing further loss of the contents and saving a sometimes considerable loss of time searching for the missing stopper.

The first reference to them that I have found is in the catalogue of the York Glass Co. Ltd. (circa 1849), which lists eight sizes varying from 1 to 8 ozs, and priced from 1s to 2s each. These are illustrated by a line drawing, and the cap appears to fit onto a ring which encircles the base of the bottle neck.

The pattern book of Hodgetts, Richardson and Co., glass manufacturers of Stourbridge (dated July 31, 1874) provides a particularly good illustration of one. In it, the collar onto which the cap fits is obviously a separate ring of glass which has been annealed to the neck of the bottle before the lip has been shaped by tooling. This book lists eighteen sizes from 1 to 40 ozs. (cost 10s 3d to 25s per dozen).

The book of illustrations to S. Maw, Son & Thompson's Quarterly Price-Current, 1891, shows an elegantly-labelled bottle with a collar round the base of the neck and a waisted cap.

An American glass manufacturer's catalogue, that of Whitall Tatum for 1902 lists five sizes from ¼ pint to ½ gallon ($4 to $12 per dozen). These differ from most English bottles in that the neck itself, which is more tapered than usual, and does not have a flanged lip, is ground to accept the cap instead of having a distinct collar. This company also lists recessed ether bottles, both "round" and "rounded square", though these were only available in pint and quart sizes. This is interesting as their "rounded square recessed ware", which was blown into iron moulds, was patented in April 1889, showing that moulded aether bottles were probably being produced by this time.

Maw's chemists catalogue, 1949, lists among the shop rounds, "Ether, Stoppered and Capped, White, Super Quality, Hand Made, Puntied. . . ." bottles. There were five sizes from 2 to 20 ozs. (3.2d to 5s 6d each). They also offered two sizes (10 and 20 ozs. at 17s and 18s 6d each) of white ether rounds with 'Phototype' recess labels which must have been moulded. One wonders how long they had held their stocks of hand-made bottles. The illustration of the puntied bottle is similar to that shown in the 1891 book of illustrations mentioned above, except that it is unlabelled.

All the thumb pieces of the English bottles illustrated are square, while the American is probably a hollow globe stopper. With the exception of Maw's, all the caps illustrated have straight sides.

In my searches I have found only two pairs of these bottles. The first have engraved labels; "SP:AETH:S:C:" and "SP:AETH:NIT:". The collars round the base of the necks have been slipped on and annealed before the mouths were tooled and then ground to accept the caps. They have rather handsome mushroom-shaped stoppers. Unfortunately, the cap of one of them is missing, but the overall height of the other is approximately 26 cms. The straight-sided cap is of heavey glass and has a cut pontil. The bases of the bottles have a slight kick and uncut pontils . These possibly date from the first half of the 19th century.

The other (unlabelled) pair was discovered in the attic of a pharmacy which was about to be sold. They also are hand-made but have cut pontils, and the bases have been ground flat. Their greatest point of interest is that they have been blown so that the bottom half of the neck is wider than the flanged lip of the bottle and about twice as wide as the rest of the neck. The enlarged portion has been ground to accept the cap which is straight-sided and also has a cut pontil. The thumb pieces of the stoppers are more or less rectangular with curved tops and vary greatly in size. The overall height is approximately 23 cms.

It is interesting to note that no coloured aether rounds appear to have been made, despite the fact that for a considerable time light has been known to have a deleterious effect on most of the substances which they would have contained. Could this have been the reason for their apparent lack of popularity? Certainly, it cannot have been the cost as they were cheaper than oil bottles which are relatively common.

Acknowledgements.
The author wishes to thank Mr. Charles Hajdamach of Dudley Art Gallery, and Mr. J.L.C. Pratt of Redfearn National Glass, York for their assistance.

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Register House, in the Book of Justiciary for Edinburgh of that period there is an almost verbatim record of the trial which took place in January 1694. "And what is more, it is in beautifully legible writing".

The principle defendants were Marion Maxwell described as the widow of David Pringle, surgeon apothecary and Daniel Nicolson, writer in Edinburgh who were charged with "nottour adultery and forgery". Dr. John Elliot, reputedly a cousin of Mrs Pringle was also charged with the forgery.

The trial commenced with a long legal wrangle regarding the relevance to infer pain of death of the various charges, especially with regard to the adultery which in those days was punishable by death on the following counts:–

1. If children were born of the adulterous union.
2. If the adultery was scandalously known in the neighbourhood.
3. If the parties had been excommunicated for continued adultery after being admonished by the Kirk.

It was held that the charges if proved were "relevant to infer the pain of death" on the following counts:–

1. Children born of the adulterous union.
2. Nottour and manifest adultery.
3. Forging of a receipt of poison by one or both or either.
4. Contriving to use the said receipt fraudulently or being 'airt or pairt' thereof.

The first witness testified to the marriage of Daniel Nicolson to Jean Landes having been performed by the minister at Lasswade in October 1682. It was also reported that in late 1688 or early 1689 Jean Landes had complained of her husband's reputed adultery before the Kirk Session but indicated that she wished to be reconciled with him. The witness recalled that "the said Daniel did not positively confess the same but seemed to be contrite and made faint promises that he should not give any occasion of scandal to her again",– and the witness sent them away reconciled – as he thought. Nevertheless he had since heard it rumoured that the adultery had continued with Marion Maxwell and also that they had paid 600 merks to the Kirk Session as atonement for their behaviour.

A number of the principal witnesses were former servants of Mrs Pringle. One fixed her cessation of that service "between four and five months after the fireworks were on the Nor Loch for the solemnity of the birth of The Prince of Wales" (in 1688). She left because there had been such scandalous reports of the defendant's behaviour that her husband would not allow her to continue in such service. She said that during her service Daniel and Marion "did eat, converse and lie together in Mrs Pringle's house, except on the Sabbath" and that she "often brought them at their desire wine, oysters and Canary in liberal quantities". Not that the behaviour of the witness was beyond reproach, by our standards, for she testified that almost every night of her fourteen months service except the Sabbaths she had seen them go to bed with as little ceremony as man and wife – firstly by looking under the door of the bedroom and being thwarted in that her mistress put a curtain over the door by peering through a hole which she herself had bored in the partition! Another servant reported that in April 1689 Mrs Pringle had given birth to a daughter (Janet) whom she had acknowledged to be Nicolson's child, but that the baby was sent off immediately and secretly to the care of a nurse. It died the following year.

Another servant said that she had often been sent to Nicolson's house to invite him to dine with Mrs Pringle. She had observed that Mrs Pringle was always cheerful and well pleased when Daniel was in the house and always ill-humoured when he was absent.

It was also testified that the sum of £400 owed by Heriot's Hospital to the estate of the deceased David Pringle was paid on Nicolson's behalf to the Kirk Session for the use of the poor.

Thereafter the evidence oncerned the forgery, which was in the form of a receipt for "two drammes of green sublimate of mercury", purporting to have been given by Jean Landes and her sister Margaret to Dr Elliot when they received the poison declared to be specifically for application to the body of Daniel Nicolson. The evidence suggested however that in the first instance at Mrs Pringle's instigation it had been planned to poison Jean Landes so that Daniel would be free to marry again. When Elliot failed in that task they planned to have Jean and her sister framed for supposedly trying to poison Daniel (because he had wasted their father's money without dividing it fairly) and so obtain a separation for him. What good that was supposed to do we cannot guess for even if he was legally separated, they would still have been committing adultery and liable to their ultimate punishment. Daniel therefore took the forged receipt to the Lord Advocate and got Elliot well and truly implicated – just to make sure that he and Mrs Pringle would get clear. However the Lord Advocate became suspicious of Daniel having the original receipt if what he suggested was true and after "some to-ing and fro-ing" Daniel, Marion and Dr. Elliot were imprisoned.

Having ploughed their way through the welter of evidence "the persons who past upon the assyze of Daniel and Marion Pringle" decided on June 30, 1694 by a plurality of votes both were guilty of "nottour and manifest adultery since September 25, 1688" and also by a plurality of votes that Nicolson was guilty "of fraudulent using of the false receipt". Unanimously it was decided that Marion Maxwell had been guilty of being "airt and pairt thereof".

Sentence was as follows:–

On Wednesday, February 14, 1694 they should be taken to the Grassmarket between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. and there Nicolson should be hanged from the gibbet until he was dead and Maxwell should have her head severed from her body.

Elliot who had already been found guilty of forgery was sentenced to be taken to the Grassmarket, a week later on Wednesday, February 21, between 2 and 4 p.m. and hanged from the gibbet until he was dead. All their moveable goods and gear were to be escheat and brought to Their Majesties Use, out of the first and readiest of which 100 pounds sterling was to be paid to Margaret Landes for "refunding to her the expense of this pursuit".

So they forfeited their lives for a crime from which they had no chance of benefitting.

This search has left several questions unanswered but it has turned up a wealth of information which could not have been envisaged from such an innocent beginning. One question has been partly answered however since the Edinburgh meeting and that is the mystery as to why Reuben McRabie took so long to render the account for David Pringle's funeral – Reuben McRabie was married to Rebecca Pringle daughter of David Pringle, surgeon. We have also been told that in Chambers Annals of Scotland Vol. II mention is made of David Pringle barber/surgeon to Heriots Hospital being the nearest relative to the founders of the Hospital – and there was the question of Pringle money being paid from Heriot's Hospital to the Kirk on behalf of Nicolson.

Had we been given the accounts without the backbond it is unlikely that any of this would have come to light. The backbond alone would probably have excited little comment if we had not already had a lead to David Pringle.

An abstract from a paper presented before an evening meeting in the Society's House, 36 York Palce, Edinburgh on April 5, 1972.

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Views of the Pharmacy

from Mr Castelow's apprenticeship days, and include the 1885 B.P. (current when he qualified) a Martindale and Westcott Extra Pharmacopoeia of 1906, as well as 1870's and 90's texts on medical botany, pharmacology and therapeuptics, and pharmaceutical chemistry.

Mr Castelow wanted his pharmacy to be preserved in its entirety in a Yorkshire museum. By the end of September, Hull Museum will have completed the reconstruction of the shop interior, and this curious and idiosyncratic survival will be on view to the public. It will intrigue and astonish modern pharmacists.

D.A.H.

November 9 1976

Joint Meeting

British Society for the History of Pharmacy

Franco-British Pharmaceutical Commission

in the Society's House

1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN

(time to be arranged)

"Old Monastic Pharmacies in France"

by M. Pierre Martinot, Editor of
"Le Moniteur des Pharmacies et des Laboratoires"

November 10 1976

Joint Meeting

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
(Scottish Department)

Scottish Society for the History of Medicine

in the Society's House

36 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3HU

at 7.45 p.m.

"Old Monastic Pharmacies in France"

by M. Pierre Martinot, Editor of
"Le Moniteur des Pharmacies et des Laboratoires"

Canadian research grants

The Board of Associated Medical Services Inc which sponsors the Hannah Institute and the Hannah Chairs in the history of medical and related sciences (one at each of the following universities: The University of Western Ontario, Queen's University, the University of Toronto, McMaster University, the University of Ottawa) announces it has approved a programme of support for research and graduate study at the five co-operating universities, and a programme of publication assistance for original works in Canadian history of medicine. In this context, *Canadian* refers to citizenship, residence or content.

The assistance programme for research and graduate study includes grants-in-aid, scholarships for graduate students, and post-doctoral fellowships, as well as provision for visiting scholars and periodic symposia in Ontario. A brochure about the Institute's history and present and future activities will be available for distribution this Autumn. In the meantime, further information and advice may be obtained from Dr. G.R. Paterson, executive director, Hannah Institute for the History of Medical and Related Sciences, 50 Prince Arthur Avenue, Suite 105, Toronto, M5R 1B5, Canada.

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Evening meetings

Miss M.Y. Williams, Archivist for the Borough of Lambeth will give a talk on Lambeth at the Society's House, 1 Lambeth High Street on January 27, 1977 at 6.30 p.m. She will outline the history of the old parish church of St. Mary Lambeth from early times, the main development along the riverside and around the church, industries, rural nature of much of the southern part of the parish until coming of railways, some of the problems associated with overpopulation in the north of the parish during the nineteenth century, with especial reference to the Lambeth High Street area.

Another meeting has been arranged at the Society's House for February 24, 1977 when the speaker will be Dr C.H. Spiers.

Spring conference

The Society's Spring Conference in 1977 is to be held at the Eliot College, University of Kent, Canterbury on March 25–27. The chosen subject is "The Hugenots in Kent". Further details will be issued later.

Old monastic pharmacies in France

Members in London and Edinburgh were treated to colour, music and history by M. Pierre Martinot when he addressed them on the old monastic pharmacies in France.

M. Martinot's presentation included recorded tape and some 137 slides covering 21 hospital apothecaries in France. Accompanied by the music of Handel and Beethoven among others, the voices of Mme Serre and George Viala explained the history of the places visited and emphasized the beauty of the items reproduced.

New Year Honours

Members will be pleased to join in the congratulations to Dr Whittet, a past president of the Society on being awarded the C.B.E. in the recent Honours list. He is an indefatigible committee member always ready to further the aims of the Society.

Sheffield conference

The British Pharmaceutical Conference is to be held in Sheffield and the History of Pharmacy Session has been arranged for September 13, 1977 at 2 p.m.

Membership

Recent membership changes:

Resigned

Mrs M. Boorman, Whitchurch, Hants.

Deceased

E.H. Guitard, Toulouse, France

New Members

R.C. Morris, London

D.K. Watkins, E.R. Squibb & Sons Ltd, Twickenham.

1977

The Editor wishes all members
a new year of great prosperity and one that
provides them with the opportunity
to put pen to paper to help him fill the future
Pharmaceutical Historians

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A new Museum for London

A new museum devoted to telling, in chronological sequence, the story of London and the Londoner was opened by the Queen on December 2. Among the exhibits are the Queen's coronation gown, richly embroidered, and the purple robe of State. Her Majesty has lent these historic robes to the Museum of London for a special display of "Coronations Past and Present" which will be on show throughout next year. Nearby, within the area dealing with London ceremonial is the Lord Mayor's coach. This splendid fairy-tale vehicle weighing nearly 3 tons will be a permanent feature of the museum, standing ready, together with its harness, for its annual outing to the Lord Mayor's Show.

Two great London collections were the basis for the new museum – those of the Guildhall Museum belonging to the Corporation of the City of London and of the London Museum, a national museum housed lately at Kensington Palace and formerly in Lancaster House. The Museum of London Act 1965 enabled the museums to amalgamate to form the Museum of London.

The first floor entrance hall of the museum joins the pedestrian walkway system linking the Barbican with the rest of the City. Inside, visitors pass through over 41,000 square feet of galleries arranged on two floors encircling a central garden courtyard. At certain points the visitor can look outwards at a relevant part of the surrounding scene. There is a separate education wing with classrooms, refectory and craftrooms, and a cinema–lecture theatre which can be used when the rest of the museum is closed. There is a shop in the entrance hall and there will eventually be catering facilities.

The designers have created a chronological narrative in an exhibition display form showing the history of London from its earliest times, right up to the present day, with the actual exhibits being supplemented by graphical information.

Each area has taken the form of an "environment" shaped by using materials, forms, proportions and colour characteristics of the appropriate period. For instance, the circular space in the Georgian London display owes much to the 18th century architecture at Ranalagh Pleasure Gardens. This theme is strongly contrasted with the Newgate prison doors.

The exhibition is arranged on two levels, running anticlockwise around the garden court, which forms a central feature to the whole museum. Ten clearly defined historical periods have been created beginning with The Thames in Prehistory, followed by Roman London, Saxon and Medieval London, Tudor and Early Stuart and, late Stuart London, Georgian London, Early 19th century London, The Imperial Capital, Early 20th century and Late 20th century London.

As much emphasis as possible has been placed upon open displays for example, life size reconstructions, complete with wall painting and genuine Roman pavements, give the visitor a feeling of what Roman kitchens and dining rooms (circa 100–200 AD) must have been like.

Such methods of display have been selectively applied in most of the historical periods using important items in the collections, such as The Fire of London – displayed as a *son-et-lumiere* model – and the static "slices of life" displays used in the Imperial Capital section, where portions of shop interiors such as chemists, tobacconists, barbers and a public house vividly recall the period.

Photograph Courtesy Museum of London

The arrangement of the Museum inevitably means that those interested in the history of medicine and pharmacy will find items displayed in various sections of the Museum.

The new museum is at the junction of London Wall and Aldersgate Street, London EC2 and has taken five years to build. The site has the Ironmongers Hall on the north side. The Museum buildings surround it on three sides as did other buildings before their destruction during the last war. The main entrance of the Museum opens directly on the pedestrian highwalk connecting the Barbican area with the rest of the city.

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The History of Pharmacy Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society 1952-1967

By L.G. Matthews

The centenary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in April 1941 aroused considerable interest in those who were concerned in its formation, admirably high-lighted by a performance of Hugh Linstead's play "Jacob Bell and Some Others".[1] Some members of the Society tried to induce the Council to begin the compilation of a record of pharmacists of the past who had given outstanding service to pharmacy (on the lines of the record then being assembled by the Royal Society) but enthusiasm waned, despite the occasional publication of papers on historical matters in the pharmaceutical press, mainly by William Kirkby (d.1942) and Howard Bayles and which had been fostered by the annual special issues of the *Chemist & Druggist*.

Not until 1950 was there further movement. A few like-minded pharmacists then met and proposed that a history of pharmacy group of the Society be constituted and Ernest C. Cripps submitted a draft constitution for such a group to Mr F.W. Adams, then joint secretary of the Society. The formation of this group was not favoured by the Council and the idea drifted until June 1952 when there were further discussions which resulted in the setting up of a *Committee on the History of Pharmacy* which held its first meeting on August 15 1952.

The Committee comprised H. Bayles, E.C. Cripps, A.J. Fairlee, W.H. Hampton, L.G. Matthews, E. Saville Peck, J.M. Rowson, Miss A. Lothian (who acted as secretary for the first meetings), G.E. Trease and F.C. Wilson representing the Society's Council, with F.W. Adams, L.G. Matthews was elected chairman. Office help was provided by the Council.

What had to be done at once was to stimulate nation-wide interest in the subject. Through the pharmaceutical press requests were made for the collection of information about the location of objects, books and documents, and particulars of century-old pharmacies. There was a good response, books and documents came in for the Society's historical collection and notes on fifty or so ancient pharmacies were obtained. Occasional evening meetings were planned and help was sought from some sixty local correspondents, nominated by the Branches, to gather information about historical materials in their own areas, and to report to the committee. This proved a very useful source and led to additional publications.

Almost before the committee had got going well it was invited to assist in the preparation of an exhibition to celebrate the centenary of the 1852 Pharmacy Act. This was followed immediately by the committee's organisation of an exhibition in August/September for the London British Pharmaceutical Conference. The exhibition at Grosvenor House, London evoked wide interest, public and pharmaceutical, and was favourably reported by the general Press. One outcome was the suggestion that to interest the public locally in pharmacy some Branches might themselves arrange historical exhibitions. This was done by Mr L.J. Chamberlain and others in the Portsmouth and Southampton area in 1954 and had a great success.

At each meeting of the committee lists of new material received or reported were circulated and papers began to appear relating to historical subjects. To record and to stimulate further interest the committee published a bulletin from time to time noting the advance made and what should still be sought. In January 1955 the deaths of two of the older members of the Committee, Howard Bayles and E. Saville Peck, had to be deplored,[2,a,b] and later that of A.J. Fairlee,[2,c] Mr J.C. Bloomfield and Mr J.F. McNeal joined the Committee.

The years 1955–56 proved a period of consolidation and of loss. The committee had to lament the deaths of yet two more of the original members, Hampton and Cripps[3,a,b]. Their places were taken by L.J. Chamberlain of Southampton, D.E. Sparshott and Dr T.D. Whittet. A History of Pharmacy Committee was formed in Scotland. It was suggested to Branches that local study groups be encouraged; a film strip of historical objects was made; over 500 different specimens of old proprietaries had been assembled and work on apothecaries' tokens begun. Professor Trease succeeded Matthews as chairman of the Committee. Heads of pharmacy schools and hospital pharmacists were asked to look out documents relating to their respective institutions. Newsletter No.1 was widely circulated in May 1955. The committee played a useful part in meetings on history held during the F.I.P. Congress in London.

In October 1955 a meeting of Branch correspondents and others interested was arranged at which invited speakers stressed various useful means of promoting the study of history and a senior archivist from Essex Record Office gave much constructive advise on sources of information, local and central. The committee examined the quantities of additional material that poured in. Dr M.P. Earles was invited to join the committee.

Newsletter No.2 appeared in August 1956. By 1957 prescription books were coming in and several were analysed for their contents, type of drugs ordered, distinguished patients and prescribers, and prescribing habits, by Dr Rowson. Newsletter No. 3 was circulated in March 1957. A valuable 18th century apothecary's cash book and record of sales of all kinds of drugs then current was discovered in a Shrewsbury seed merchant's premises and was presented to the Society by May & Baker. Branches began to bestir themselves about the value of their own records and accounts of some of them were received. Over 250 pharmacies were now noted as having been in existence over a century, thirty or forty dating from the 18th century though not many on the original sites.

An interesting sidelight on the committee's reported activities was that the New Zealand Pharmacy Board decided to set up an historical record and that other Commonwealth countries also began to see the value of such a practice.

Mr D.F. Lewis now attended meetings in place of Mr Adams and Mr J.C. Stanton acted as secretary. Mr Drummond was elected to the committee. By 1958 some of the Society's inspectors were beginning to report where there was historical material in pharmacies they visited. The committee set out a

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programme of future work. Branch correspondents were asked to visit local museums to find out what was in them of pharmaceutical interest. Professor Glenn Sonnedecker of Wisconsin offered to allocate places in the American Institute for suitable post-graduate students of history. Newsletter No.4 was circulated in January 1958 and No.5 in September, about 400 copies being dispatched. Mr J.C. Bloomfield succeeded Professor Trease as chairman. Letters were again sent to hospital pharmacists inviting them to work on the history of their pharmaceutical departments. An evening meeting was addressed by Professor Trease on "A 13th century Family of Court Apothecaries".

The proposed Faculty of History of the Society of Apothecaries was discussed; the Council of the Pharmacetucal Society declined to be associated with it and it was left to members to join individually if they wished. The Council of the Society approved a suggestion by Mr Matthews, supported by the Committee, that a plaque commemorating Jacob Bell be placed upon the site of Bell's Langham Place, London, and a sketch for this was subsequently passed but no successful action resulted.

At an evening meeting in 1960, Dr Whittet gave a paper "Pharmaceutical Fellows of the Royal Society". Council again turned down the request to set up a history group. Dr Wallis addressed a meeting on "The School of Pharmacy" in February 1961. The installation of a reconstructed pharmacy in York Place, Edinburgh was reported; no similar facilities were available at No.17 Bloomsbury Place. Newsletter No. 6 issued in December 1961 included notes on the work of the Scottish committee.

During 1961 a collection of drug jars from the late John Austin, Sheffield was received with his book "Historical Notes on Old Sheffield Druggists". Dr Earles was asked to provide notes for those wishing to take up historical research. (Later published in the *Pharmaceutical Journal,* with help from Dr Crellin). At an evening meeting, Dr Earles spoke on "Early Scientific Studies on Drugs and Poisons".

Dr R.R. Trail's subject at the next meeting was "The College of Physicians and the Society of Apothecaries in the 17th–18th centuries". The committee offered to assist with an exhibition for the 1963 B.P. Conference Centenary Meeting in London. One idea, that of a reconstructed Victorian pharmacy, had to be abandoned. Good relations were established with the Osler Club of London and with the Faculty of History of the Society of Apothecaries. Members of the committee gave papers at the Faculty's Conference at Nottingham, the subject of which was "The Evolution of Pharmacy in Britain". The Council made a grant towards the cost of making a film at Brighton Technical College on "Obsolete pharmaceutical procedures". At an evening meeting Dr R.S. Roberts discussed "The Organisation of the Trade of an Apothecary in the 17th Century". Newsletter No.8 included a list of recently published historical papers.

In 1963 the records of the Russell Street, London, pharmacy were compiled by Miss G. Watson. By now the proprietary medicine collection had reached almost 800 specimens. In 1964 a working party was set up under Miss Lothian to be responsible for arrangements for the London Congress of the Internationale Gesellschaft fur Geschichte der Pharmazie. Proposals were made by Sir Hugh Linstead, after discussion with the Faculty of the Society of Apothecaries to form a History of Pharmacy Group within the Pharmaceutical Society but possibly associated with the Faculty, and a draft constitution was prepared. Miss M. Burr replaced Mr McNeal as a member of the committee. Much additional material, including pharmaceutical sundries and labels came in. Mr H.E. Chapman who had joined the committee presented a collection of early trade invoices. The first instalment of "Guidance for Historians" was printed in the *Pharmaceutical Journal.* Reports of the Scottish Committee were received. At an evening meeting Professor David Cowen spoke on "History and Pharmacy".

During 1965 there were *no* meetings of the committee. The Int. Gesellschaft held its congress in September at which some members of the committee delivered papers. A special exhibition was mounted at the Wellcome Museum and Library. The publication of Professor Trease's book *Pharmacy in History* and Mrs Elliott's book *History of Surgical Dressings* was commended. Further evening meetings were planned.

No meetings of the Committee took place in 1966, the long gap being regretted by all. During this period however informal discussions on the future organisation were held. In January 1967 a special meeting of the committee considered again the proposal to form a History Group within the Society and the alternative of an independent history society. The decision was in favour of an independent society and the "Office" was asked to draft a constitution for it. In March 1967 the draft was approved, subject to minor amendments, and an annual membership fee of £1 agreed. It was proposed to seek a contribution for running expenses from the Pharmaceutical Society's Council.

The well attended inaugural meeting at which the *British Society for the History of Pharmacy* was formed was held on 4 June 1967. At the first meeting of the committee the officers appointed were Mr J.C. Bloomfield, president; Prof. G.E. Trease, vice-president; Dr J.K. Crellin, secretary; and Mr L.G. Matthews, treasurer. The work of the committee of the Pharmaceutical Society was at an end.

The subsequent work of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy is recorded in its minutes, in the issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian*, in its *Transactions* and in reports in the pharmaceutical Press.

REFERENCES

1. Published in the Society's Centenary Commemoration Volume, April 15, 1941.

2a. Howard Bayles (1872–1954). During his period in local pharmacy he began to contribute articles to the *Chemist & Druggist* and later he became an assistant editor, specialising in historical writing. His contributions, over thirty years, were not always signed but they all reflect his scholarly and accurate work and his clear and gracious style. He gave great encouragement to youthful and amateur writers. His last paper "Popular Medical Books of the 18th century" was published in the *Pharm.J.* of 22 May and 12 June 1954.

2b. E. Saville Peck (1866–1955). An outstanding Cambridge pharmacist and a great conservator of pharmaceutical antiques. A notable collector of jars and of mortars, many of which he left to the Society. He wrote many articles on these and on materia medica cabinets preserved at Cambridge. He attended meetings of the committee even when racked with arthritis.

2c. A.J. Fairlee (1874–1955). He was for a time at Plough Court, then took a pharmacy at Lavender Hill, London, where he was for many years. He accumulated drug jars and a whole range of out of the way materials. His fine collection of jars was presented by his son, Dr James Fairlee, to the Society of Apothecaries of London, together with the mortar of John Battersby, friend of Samuel Pepys.

3a. E.C. Cripps (1871–1956). He was for many years a member of the staff of Allen & Hanburys. Keenly interested in the history of his firm, he published in 1927 *Plough Court, The Story of a Notable Pharmacy, 1715–1927.* In 1954 he was co-author with D. Chapman-Houston of *Through a City Archway: the Story of Allen & Hanburys*, one of the first full-scale histories of a company in the drug industry. Cripps lectured at the Royal Society of Arts and was an occasional contributor to the Press.

3b. W.H. Hampton (1874–1956). A stalwart of Gloucester where he had a pharmacy for many years. He formed a good general collection of antiques of which a large part came by his wish to the Pharmacuetical Society.

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